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Stetson Kindred of America
INC.

**ACCOUNT OF
SECOND REUNION
AND
OTHER DATA**

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS



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Respectfully yours
Francis Lynde Stetson

PRESIDENT STETSON.
New York City.

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AND

EXTENDED ACCOUNT OF SECOND REUNION

HELD AUGUST 18, 1906

ADDRESSES IN FULL COPY OF DEED LAND COURTS DECREE

NAMES OF OFFICERS MEMBERS OF CORPORATION

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

COMPILED BY THE SECRETARY

MEDFORD, MASS.

PRESS OF J. C. MILLER, JR., 3 AND 5 LAURIAT PLACE

1907

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John R. Nelson, Jr.
Nov. 7, 1916

WILLIAM CLARK
JAN 10
1917



ROBERT STETSON GORHAM.

Vice President.



ORIGIN OF Stetson Kindred of America (Inc.)

At a meeting of four Stetsons in the month of August, 1905, it was agreed that an effort should be made to get together as many as possible of the descendants of Cornet Robert Stetson, and the matter was left with full power in the hands of George W. Stetson of Medford.

On Oct. 14 there were gathered in the town of Norwell eighty-four persons, all lineal descendants of Cornet Robert. They stood about the spot where once was the house of their ancestor. They went through the present house that has held full sway for nearly one hundred and eighty years. They quaffed water from the spring that their ancestor used, and which never has been dry from 1634 to the present time. Then they went to "Stetson Hall," ate their basket lunch, and decided to organize an association to be known as the "Stetson Kindred of America." They elected temporary officers and instructed them to incorporate under the laws of Massachusetts.

The officers elected were: President, Francis Lynde Stetson, New York City; Vice-President, John B. Stetson, Philadelphia; Secretary and Treasurer, George W. Stetson, Medford, Mass.; Executive Committee, the above and Miss Frances A. Plimpton, Boston; Eugene E. Stetson, Norwell; Daniel E. Damon, Plymouth, Mass.; Thomas D. Stetson, New York; W. W. Stetson, Augusta, Me.; Warren B. Stetson, Middleboro, Mass.; James B. Stetson, San Francisco, Cal.; Albert Stetson, Los Angeles, Cal.

The matter of incorporating was placed with full powers in the hands of Robert Stetson Gorham (now Vice-President), and an agreement drawn up, as follows:

AGREEMENT OF ASSOCIATION.

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, do, by this agreement associate ourselves with the intention to constitute a corporation according to the provisions of the one hundred and twenty-fifth Chapter of the Revised Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Acts in amendment thereof and in addition thereto.

The name by which the corporation shall be known is "Stetson Kindred of America," Inc.

The corporation is constituted for the purpose of encouraging antiquarian, genealogical and historical researches, especially with reference to the times, the ancestors and the descendants of Robert Stetson, who settled at Scituate (now Norwell), Plymouth County, Massachusetts, about the year 1635, and there died, on or about Feb. 1, 1703.

The place within which the corporation is established or located is the City of Boston, within said Commonwealth.

The amount of its capital stock is nothing.

The par value of its shares is nothing.

The number of its shares is none.

The charter granted reads as follows:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

No. 10706.

Be it known that, whereas, Robert Stetson Gorham, Francis S. Beckford, Henry L. Shattuck, Allison G. Catheron, Agnes E. Raymond, James E. Carroll and Florence K. Kienzle have associated themselves with the intention of forming a corporation under the name of the "Stetson Kindred of America, Inc.," for the purpose of encouraging antiquarian, genealogical and historical researches, especially with reference to the times, the ancestors and the descendants of Robert Stetson, who settled at Scituate (now Norwell), Plymouth County, Massachusetts, about the year 1635, and there died on or about Feb. 1, 1703, and have complied with the provisions of the Statutes of this Commonwealth in such



STETSON HALL.

Birthplace of the Stetson Kindred of America, Inc.



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THE GAMBREL-ROOF HOUSE SOUTH OF CORPORATION PROPERTY. A former home of Stetsons.

case made and provided, as appears from the certificate of the President, Treasurer, Secretary and Directors of said corporation, duly approved by the Commissioner of Corporations and recorded in this office:

Now, therefore, I, William M. Olin, Secretary of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify that said Robert Stetson Gorham, Francis S. Beckford, Henry L. Shattuck, Allison G. Catheron, Agnes E. Raymond, James E. Carroll and Florence K. Kienzle, their associates and successors, are legally organized and established as, and are hereby made, an existing corporation under the name of the

STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA, INC.,

with the powers, rights and privileges and subject to the limitations, duties and restrictions which by law appertain thereto.

Witness my official signature hereunto subscribed, and the Great Seal of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts hereunto affixed, this fourteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and five.

WM. M. OLIN,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

SEAL

By-Laws.

On Tuesday, Nov. 13, 1905, Robert Stetson Gorham and his associates met at 60 State Street, Room 1000, Boston, and organized and elected temporary officers.

The following By-Laws were unanimously adopted.

ARTICLE I.

Name. Location. Purposes.

This Corporation shall be known as the "Stetson Kindred of America," Inc., and be located at Boston, Massachusetts, and is constituted for the purpose of encouraging antiquarian, genealogical and historical researches, especially with reference to the times, the ancestors and the descendants of ROBERT STETSON, who settled at Scituate (now Norwell), Plymouth County, Massachusetts, about the year 1635, and there died on or about Feb. 1, 1703.

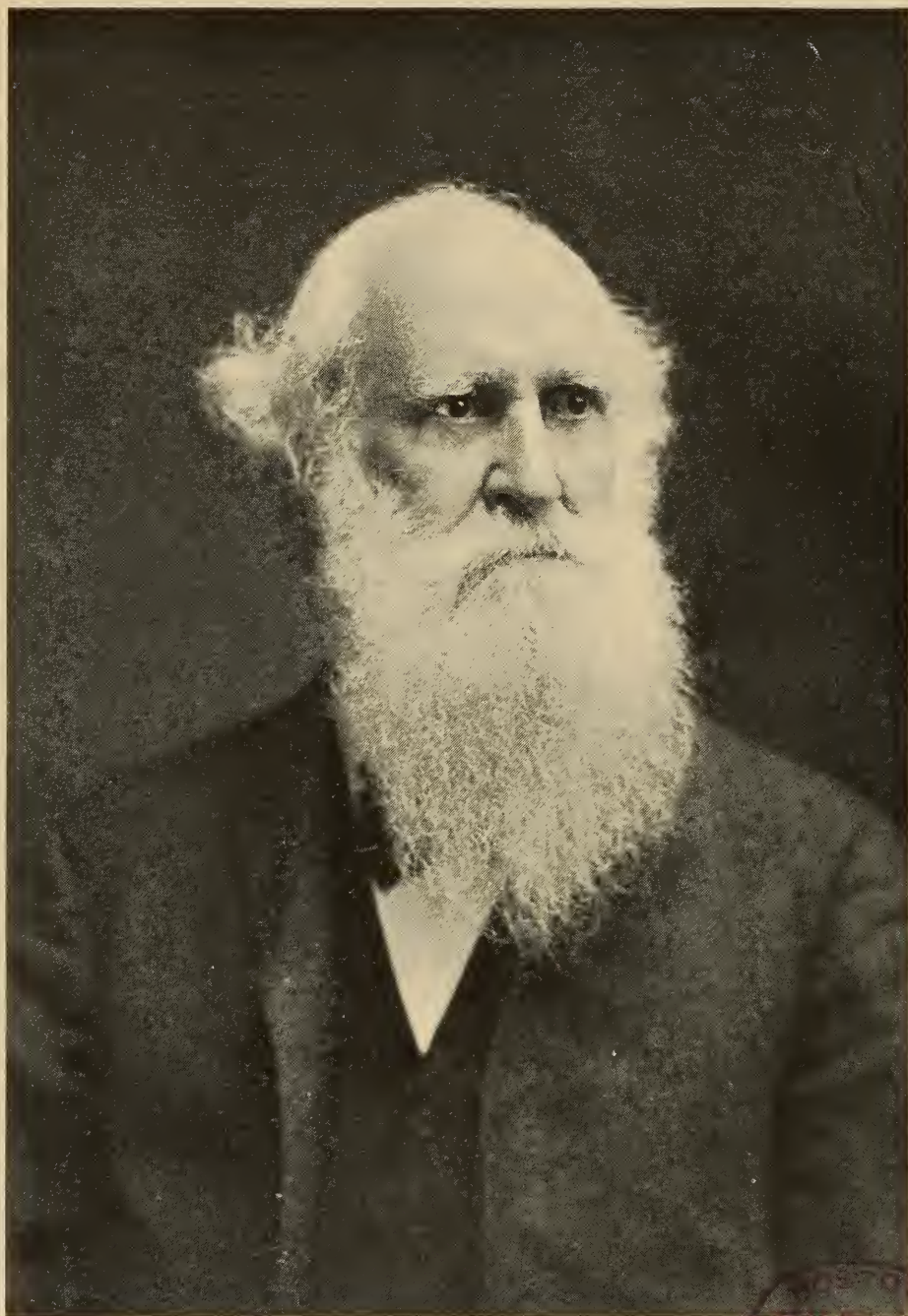
ARTICLE II.

Officers and their Election.

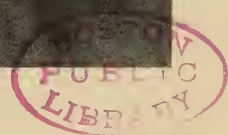
The officers of the corporation shall be chosen by ballot, and shall be a Secretary, Treasurer, Board of eleven (11) Directors, a President, Vice-President, and an Executive Committee of three (3) of the Directors.

At the meeting for organization shall be chosen a Secretary, Treasurer, and eleven (11) Directors, to hold office until the first annual meeting.

Immediately after such meeting for the election of officers, the Board of Directors shall meet, and for that purpose those who are present shall constitute a quorum, and choose by ballot from among the Directors a President, a Vice-President and an Executive Committee of three (3), to hold office until the next annual meeting.



THOMAS DREW STETSON.
New York.
A DIRECTOR.



Vacancies, How Filled.

If a vacancy occurs in the office of Directors, a meeting of the corporation may be called to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term, but meantime the remaining Directors shall constitute the Board of Directors.

If a vacancy occurs in the office of Secretary or Treasurer, a meeting of the corporation shall be called to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term.

Vacancies in the offices of President, Vice-President, or Executive Committeemen, shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Executive Committee, unless the Board of Directors is in session or unless the Executive Committee calls a meeting of the Board of Directors for that purpose.

All officers chosen as in this Article provided, shall hold office until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE III.

Meetings of the Corporation.

The first annual meeting of the members of the corporation shall be held as soon as convenient after the Certificate of Organization has been issued by the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Regular Annual Meetings.

Each subsequent annual meeting of the members of the corporation shall be held in Boston or Norwell, Massachusetts, as the Directors or the Executive Committee may from time to time determine, on the third Saturday in August of each year, for the choice of officers and the transaction of any other business which may properly be brought before it. In case of failure from any cause to hold any annual meeting, a special meeting shall be called as hereinafter provided, to transact the business of such annual meeting.

Special Meetings. Notices.

Special meetings may be called by vote of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee, or by the President.

Notices of all meetings shall be printed or in writing, shall

state the matters to be there considered, and shall be mailed to all members, addressed at their several addresses of record, at least two weeks before the day of holding the meeting.

Quorum.

Eleven (11) members shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IV.

Membership Interest.

The members of the corporation shall have an equal interest in the property of the corporation, but said interest shall not be transferable, and the interest of each shall determine with his membership.

Election of Members.

The membership shall consist of the original incorporators, such persons as shall be elected by them, and such further persons adjudged by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee to be lineal descendants of Robert Stetson, who settled at Scituate (now Norwell), in Plymouth County, Massachusetts, about the year 1635, and there died about Feb. 1, 1703, as shall by ballot be unanimously elected by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee and shall pay the admission fee provided for in Article V of these By-Laws.

Certificate of Membership and Seal.

The Secretary shall issue to each member a certificate of membership in such form as the Board of Directors or Executive Committee shall from time to time prescribe, and shall enter the name and address on the membership rolls of the corporation.

The Board of Directors or Executive Committee may adopt as the seal of the corporation such device as they deem proper.

Resignation of Members.

By written resignation, signed on the record or mailed to the Secretary, any person may at any time terminate his or her membership.



JAMES B. STETSON.
San Francisco, Cal.
A DIRECTOR

ARTICLE V.

Admission Fee.

Each member elected to membership by the Board of Directors or Executive Committee, shall pay to the Treasurer an admission fee of one dollar (\$1.00), or such greater amount, not exceeding ten dollars (\$10.00), as the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee shall from time to time fix.

Annual Dues.

Every member shall pay as annual dues such sum, not exceeding five dollars (\$5.00), as the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee shall from time to time fix.

Bills for the annual dues shall be rendered by the Treasurer on or before May 1, beginning with May 1, 1906, and be payable on or before June 1 of each year.

Penalties for Non-Payment of Dues.

No member whose dues are in arrears shall be eligible to vote at any meeting of the Corporation. In case of non-payment of his or her annual dues, a member may be dropped from membership by vote of the Board of Directors or Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI.

Board of Directors and its Meetings.

The Board of Directors shall hold meetings at the request of any Director, upon notice by the Secretary personally given, or mailed properly addressed to each Director two weeks at least before the holding of such meeting. Five (5) Directors shall constitute a quorum of the Board. Said Board shall have all the powers of the Corporation, except as by law or herein otherwise provided.

After the year 1905, only members of the Corporation shall be eligible to be chosen or to continue to serve as Directors.

ARTICLE VII.

Executive Committee and Its Meetings.

In the Executive Committee shall vest all the powers of the Board of Directors, except when said Board is in session.

The certificate of the Secretary as to whether the Board was in session shall be sufficient evidence of the fact. Two shall constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee. Its meetings shall be called on request made to the Secretary by any member of the Committee, and shall by the Secretary be called by at least twenty-four hours' notice given or mailed to each member of the Committee.

ARTICLE VIII.

Secretary.

The Secretary shall keep the records of the corporation, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. He shall be the custodian of all the books and papers of the corporation, except as herein otherwise provided. He shall send the notices for all meetings of the corporation, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all moneys and securities of the corporation, and shall keep accurate books of account thereof. He shall, if at any time so required by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee, give a bond, with a surety company as surety and in such form and amount as to said Board or Committee seems proper, for the faithful performance of his duties, the expense of such bond to be borne by the corporation, and the bond to be kept in the custody of the President. The Treasurer's accounts shall each year be audited by the Executive Committee and submitted, with such audit, at the annual meeting of the members.

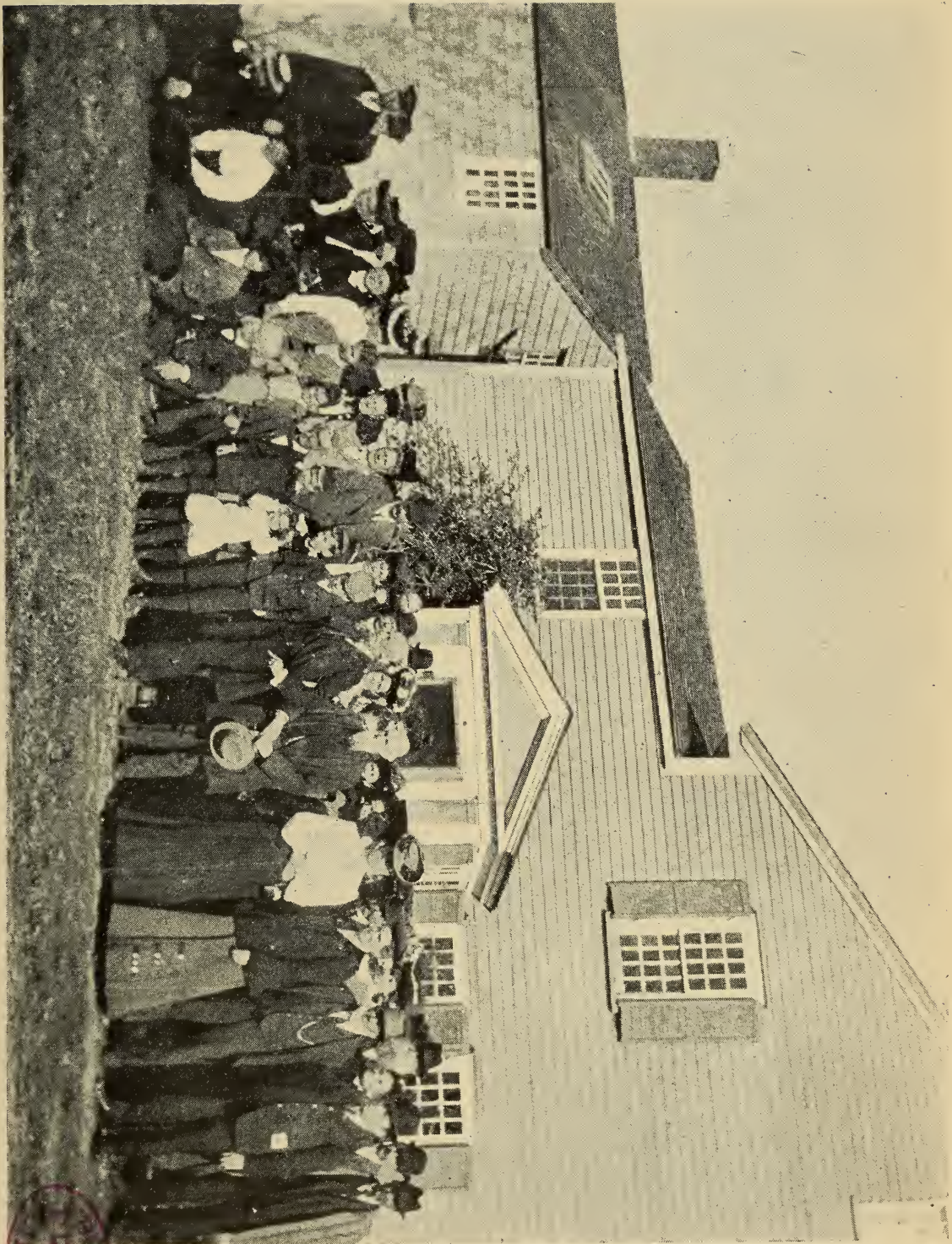
Fiscal Year. One Person may be Secretary and Treasurer.

The fiscal year of the corporation shall end July 1. The same person may act as Secretary and Treasurer, and may also serve on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IX.

President and Vice President.

The President, and in his absence the Vice-President, shall



GROUP PICTURE OF THOSE ATTENDING GATHERING IN 1905.

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THE EBEN STETSON PLACE NOW OCCUPIED BY T. C. SAMPSON, A MEMBER OF KINDRED.

preside at all meetings of the members of the corporation and the Board of Directors. In the absence of both of said officers, a temporary chairman shall be chosen.

ARTICLE X.

Salaries.

None of the officers of the corporation shall receive any salaries.

ARTICLE XI.

Amendments.

These By-Laws may be amended at any meeting of the members duly called for such purpose, but the admission fee and the annual dues shall never be increased beyond the limits set by Article V.

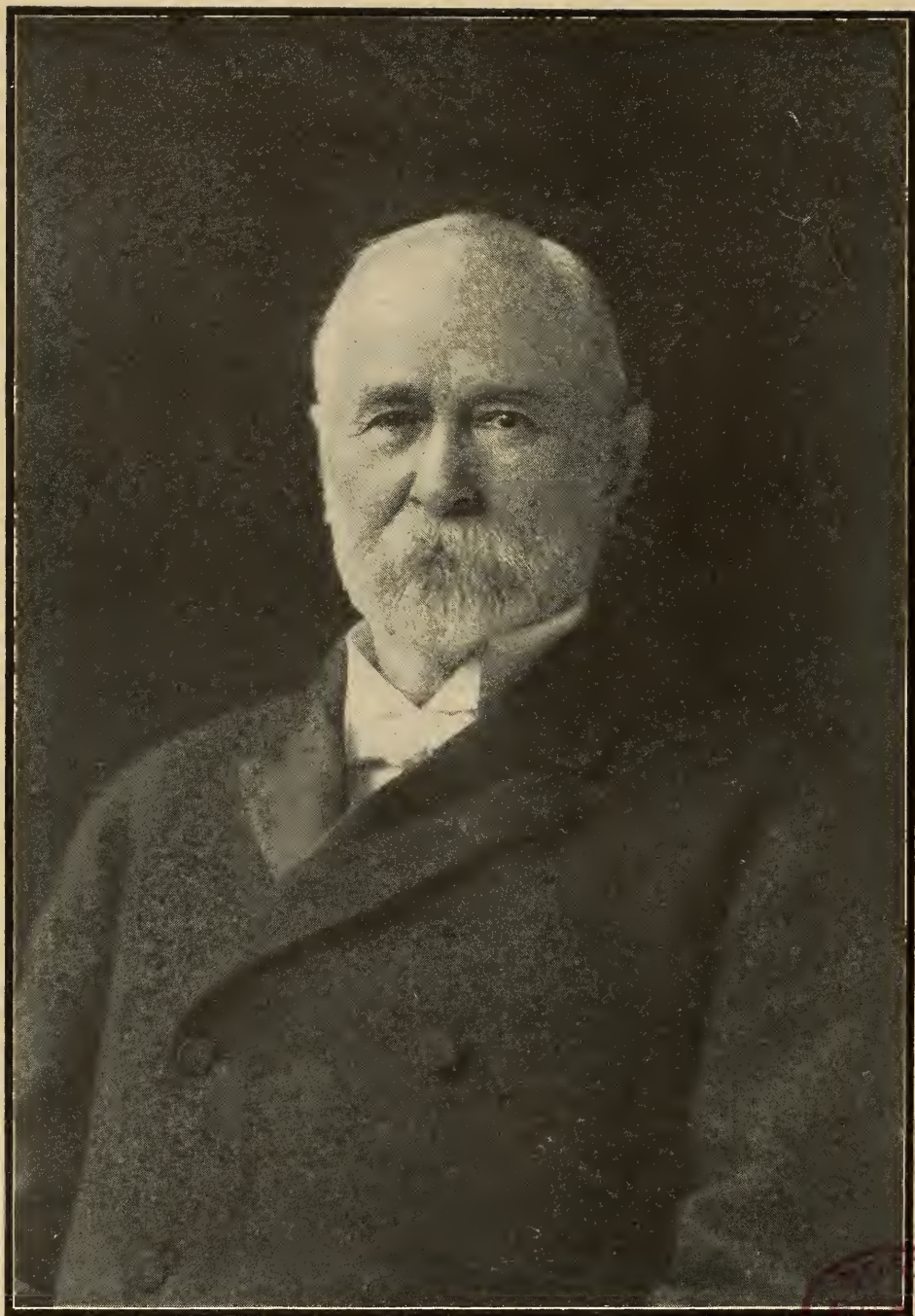
A permanent organization was then effected and officers elected as required by the By-Laws.

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

On Nov. 15, 1905, the first annual meeting of Stetson Kindred of America, Inc., was held; members were elected and the temporary officers elected in October were made the permanent officers.

At a meeting of the Directors, held in Boston, July 20, 1906, the death of John B. Stetson, Vice-President, was announced, and Robert Stetson Gorham was elected to fill the vacancy.

A committee was appointed to draw up a suitable minute of the death of Mr. Stetson. They reported the following, which was adopted by the committee and an engrossed copy was forwarded to the family of the deceased.



LATE JOHN B. STETSON,
Philadelphia, Pa.
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT OF CORPORATION.

Stetson Kindred of America (Inc.)**IN MEMORIAM****JOHN B. STETSON.****LATE VICE-PRESIDENT.**

At a meeting of the Directors of the Stetson Kindred of America, Inc., held in Boston, July 20, 1906, the death of John B. Stetson, Vice-President of the corporation, was announced and the following minute was adopted by a rising vote.

In the passing of our associate, JOHN B. STETSON from his earthly labors to a higher life, the Kindred of Stetson in America has lost a brother whose character and achievements reflected lustre upon the name of our common ancestor. His counsel and his help in promoting the purposes of the Kindred will be greatly missed. The business world has lost an eminent leader. The community in which he lived an estimable citizen and his family an affectionate husband and father.

We tender to his family our heartfelt sympathy, and we would express the hope that the sadness of their loss may be lessened by the memory of his life, which was at once noble and generous. His example of uprightness and benevolence, both in private life and in his wide relations to the public, was worthy and inspiring.

Resolved, That a copy of this minute be sent to the family of our deceased associate, and a copy be spread upon the records of the corporation.

STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA.

Francis Lynde Stetson, President.

George William Stetson, Secretary.

A true copy. Attest:

George W. Stetson, Secretary.

THE SECOND REUNION.

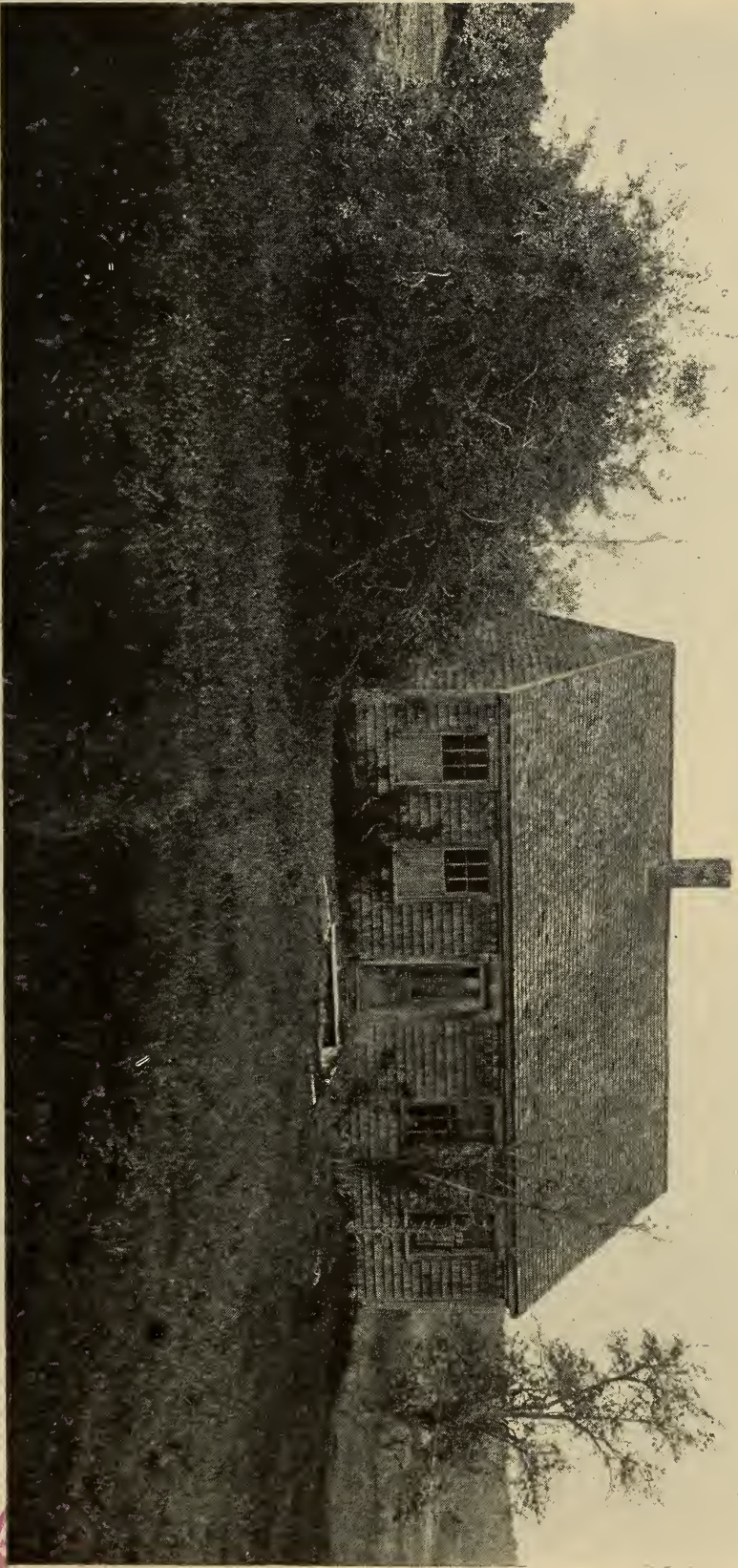
On Saturday, Aug. 18, 1906, occurred the second reunion of the Kindred, to which lineal descendants and members of their families to the number of 225 gathered together. To make the occasion the more enjoyable, there had been erected a pavilion 40 x 60 feet, the cost having been advanced for the corporation by the esteemed President, who also invited the members and their husbands or wives to be his guests for the day.

At the hour of high noon The Stetson Kindred of America, to the number of one hundred and forty-three, having gathered at the tables spread for their refreshment at "the Shrine," upon the site of the original homestead of Cornet Robert Stetson, God's blessing was invoked by the Reverend Oscar F. Stetson, of North Carver. After the excellent feast furnished by the caterer, Mr. Granville B. Damon, himself of the Kindred, had been enjoyed by all, the President introduced the orator of the day as follows:

Fellow-Kinsmen—The genial glow of this perfect day of summer competes with the untiring and successful efforts of our indefatigable Secretary in giving you welcome to the Cornet's Spring on this the Second Annual Festival of our clan.

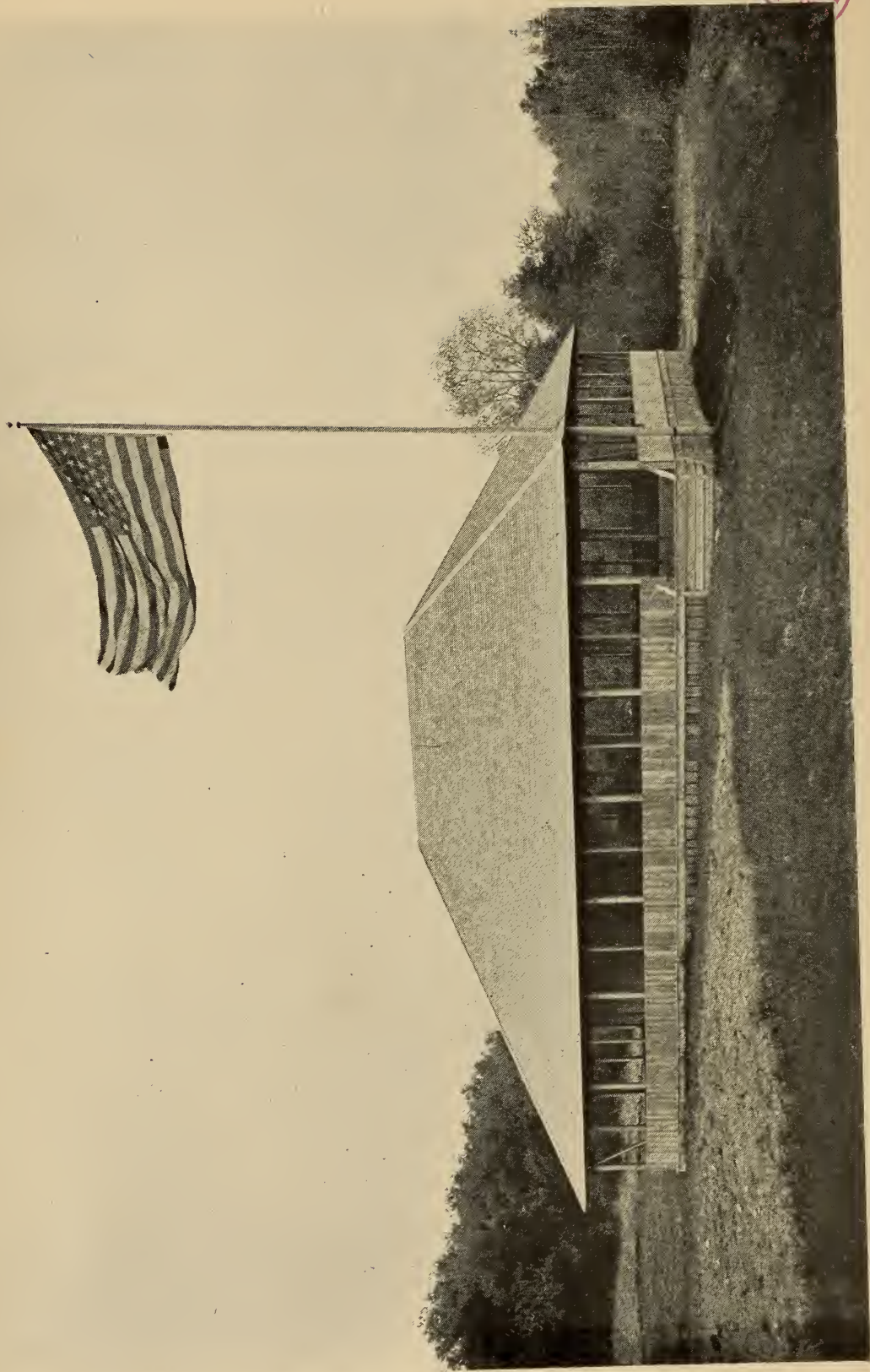
This morning, under the pilotage of my cousin, Robert Stetson Gorham, whose mother was daughter of the seventh Robert, I endeavored by boat to follow the course taken in 1634 up the North River by Robert the first. Thus, it was from the water that I greeted this site of his homestead, still beautiful, though shorn of the perfect fullness of verdure of shore and forest, which first fixed his regard and held him here for nearly seventy years. At this late date of canonization, what better title could we confer upon him than to borrow the designation of his great contemporary, and call him Lord High Protector of the North River? Certainly none guarded over it longer than did he, or from a station of more dignity in the estimation of his fellow-townsmen.

It is interesting to reflect that here, in their independent



THE OLD HOUSE ON THE PROPERTY OF THE CORPORATION.

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THE PAVILLION ON THE CORPORATION'S PROPERTY.

isolation, he and his associates were working out and establishing for themselves and for us, the forms and principles of representative popular government, for which their kinsmen in England were struggling, even unto the death of themselves and their king. Upon each side of the Atlantic there were bloody conflicts, but that waged here was against King Philip and his tribes, not against King Charles and his supporters. Our Pilgrim Fathers here deeply sympathized with the Puritans in the Old Home, but it was in self-reliance and without dependence upon the issue of the parliamentary struggle there against the Stuarts that the men of the Old Colony from 1620 to 1688 worked out their own salvation and forever fixed their landmarks of liberty.

How largely the character and the efforts of our ancestor contributed to this remarkable consummation will be indicated to you by our kinsman, Mr. D. E. Damon, the orator of the day, upon whose province and time I shall permit myself to encroach only far enough to remind you that the North River was not the only highway of the town of Scituate with which our ancestor was identified. For this reason the directors of your corporation have asked the Selectmen of this town to give the name of Stetson to River Street, which was laid out by Cornet Robert Stetson as foreman of a jury appointed for that purpose in 1646.

An Act passed by the Colony Court in 1639 and re-enacted in 1642 with slight change, provided as follows:

“And if it shall fall out that a way be wanting upon due complaint, that then the Governor panel a jury and upon oath charge them to lay out such way as in conscience they find most beneficial for the common weal and as little prejudice as may be to the particular.”

The people of Scituate acted speedily under this law, and procured a jury for that purpose, with William Vassall as foreman. Mr. Vassall and his jury seem to have wholly neglected their duty, for in July, 1646, this record appears in the Colony Court orders:

“Upon complaint of some of the inhabitants of Scituate that there was great want of highways to be laid out, and a former jury have been empanelled to have done the same, who have not yet, for divers years, recorded their verdict, that the ways might be known as the Court is informed, the Court doth therefore order that a warrant shall be directed to the constables of Scituate requiring them to cause a sufficient jury to be empanelled before Mr. Timothy Hatherly, who upon their oaths shall lay forth all such ways with as much conveniency to the general and as little prejudice to the particulars, as may be according to the act of the Court.”

Under this order a new jury was empanelled, with Robert Stetson as foreman, and under his energetic leadership were speedily laid out several of what now are principal highways in the original town of Scituate. Among them was the main highway, now called River Street. As this street owed its original existence to the energy and enterprise of Robert Stetson, we, the Directors of the corporation, thought it would be a just and appropriate recognition of his services as a road builder, if the town now were to give his name to his street.

In concluding these remarks, already too long extended, I wish to pay my tribute to the memory and character of our late Vice-President, John B. Stetson, of Philadelphia, who closed a life of great usefulness to mankind and an unblemished career as a manufacturer and a merchant, at his home in Philadelphia a few weeks since.

Mr. Stetson showed his genuine and generous interest in our association and movement by contributing one-half of the cost of the purchase price of the Old Homestead; and a continuance of his interest is exhibited by his son, John B. Stetson, Jr., who is with us today, and to whom we extend our welcome and our wish and trust that the richest heritage received by him from his father—the priceless jewel of a good name—will be honorably maintained.

I now have the honor to present to you the Orator of the Day, Mr. D. E. Damon, of Plymouth.



DANIEL E. DAMON.
Plymouth.
A DIRECTOR.

Mr. Damon's most excellent address is given in full. He said:

We are here today because two hundred and seventy-two years ago a young man, barely twenty-one years of age, came up the North River farther into the wilderness than any settler before him had gone, and here, where the river bends towards the upland he pitched his tent. What brought him thus afar, three thousand miles from his childhood home, and forever away from all his kindred—for no other Stetson, so far as can be learned, ever came to America?

He was no refugee from religious oppression, and he came not in the spirit of reckless adventure, for he was not that kind of youth. A studied, steady purpose ran through all his life. The motive, I believe, was to be found in the old, old story of a woman's love. That in some one of the families of the early settlers there was a sister or a daughter to whom he held the relation of accepted suitor, and when that family came to New England he came with it or followed soon after.

Under the then existing circumstances he chose well his place of residence. A spring of pure, sweet water bubbled forth from the upland near the marsh line—many of you today have tasted the cool refreshment of the "Coronet's Spring"—the soil was warm, fertile, easily tilled and responsive to intelligent cultivation, the nearby marsh would be useful in many ways, and the river was his highway.

It is safe to say he was then unmarried, for he was only twenty-one, and his first child was not born until five years later. And right here, all alone in the forest, he toiled for four long years, felling trees, clearing land, raising such crops as he could and preparing a home for the woman of his choice.

It was a rude and simple home, but a fine farm to which, in 1638, he brought that rare woman. In this place for nineteen years he led the life of a farmer exclusively, although about 1659 he is called in one of his deeds "carpenter," indicating that for some brief period he may have done some work as a mechanic.

During that nineteen years all his children but one were born. During that period, also, with one possible exception, he seems to have taken no interest in public affairs, was not even a freeman or voter. Then moved by some influence or impulse he entered into a wider life.

Barry, in his invaluable history of the Stetson family, says he became a freeman in 1652. This is an error of one year. June 4, 1652 he was propounded to take up his freedom, and June 7, 1653, when he was forty years of age, he was admitted and sworn as a freeman. The next year, the first year he was eligible, he was elected to the important office of Deputy to the Colony Court, and for eight years successively thereafter. In the whole he served seventeen years in this high office. No other person from Scituate was elected more than six years.

The Colony Court, or General Court, as it was also called (the latter name still attaching to the Legislature of Massachusetts), was composed of the Governor, his seven Assistants and the Deputies (two from each town in the Colony), all sitting together as a legislative body for the enactment of laws. The Governor and his Assistants, the "Magistrates," as they were sometimes called, sat also as a Court for the trial of causes. All were elected by the voters, the freemen.

In 1658 a law was passed providing that towns might elect Boards of Selectmen, who, when approved by the Colony Court, should be a court of limited jurisdiction, authorized to try cases not involving over forty shillings, and all differences between Indians and English. They were given power to issue executions to enforce their judgments.

Whatever Selectmen may have been previously chosen, none were "approved" until December, 1665, and the first board of Scituate in 1666, when Cornet Stetson was one of the number. He was elected to that office five times.

You will observe that in the beginning, for more than one hundred years, and perhaps till the end of the Colonial period, we had an elective judiciary. The trend of recent legislation should teach us that if we wish to avoid the burden of a civil pension list



THE OLDEST AND YOUNGEST

At the first gathering in 1905, and now members of the Kindred.

we must return to an elective judiciary. The average man will find it hard to discover any good reason why a judge, long time in the enjoyment of a large salary from which he might have saved a comfortable fortune, why such a man on reaching a certain age should retire on a large pension, while the poor man of an equally meritorious life at the same age retires to the poorhouse. Such legislation is unjust and at war with democratic institutions, being viciously aristocratic. Dr. Edward Everett Hale, a profound thinker, advocates an equal moderate pension for all on reaching a designated age. Such a law would be sensible and humane, and enable all to live and not lose self-respect. It will not be long before some political party will adopt for its slogan, "Abolish poorhouses, substitute pensions." The safety of a republican form of government is secured only by the imposition of equal burdens and the bestowal of equal rights.

As soon as Robert Stetson became well known to the Colonial government, he was given much public work to perform. Among other things, he had charge of the Kennebec fisheries for a time. He was appointed to make the contract for and to superintend the rebuilding of the bridge over Jones River, in Kingston, then a part of Plymouth. And he served on the Council of War from 1661 to 1681, a period of twenty years and covering the time when occurred the worst of the Indian wars in the most critical time of Colonial history.

The question is sometimes heard, "Why was he called Cornet and what does the name mean?" In 1658, when it began to be feared there would be further and more serious trouble with the Indians, this act was passed:

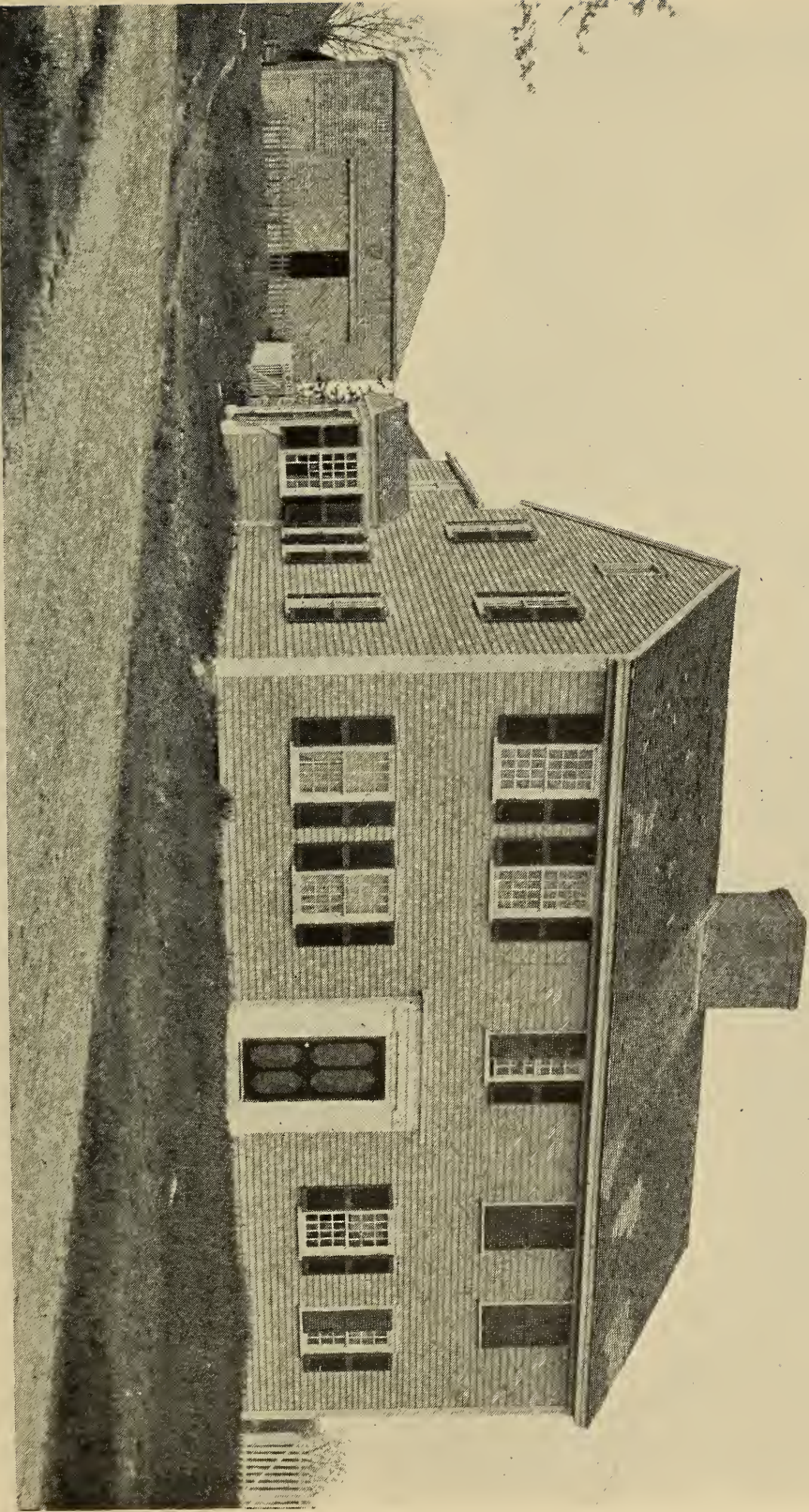
"It is enacted by the Court and the authority thereof that a troop of horse, well appointed with furniture, viz.: A saddle and a case of petternells for each horse, shall be raised out of the several townships, to be ready for service when required, and maintained for that purpose, to be raised as followeth."

The number from each town is given, but later the same year the allotment was revised and stood as follows: Plymouth

three, Duxbury two, Scituate four, Sandwich three, Taunton three, Yarmouth three, Barnstable three, Marshfield three, Eastham three, Bridgewater two, Sowamset one, Rehoboth three. Thirty-three in all. Not a large troop. This troop, as ordered, was recruited and organized, for in October, 1659, the Colony Court confirmed William Bradford of Plymouth as Captain, John Freeman of Eastham as Lieutenant and Robert Stetson of Scituate Cornet. As a Deputy he had helped to pass the law and as a patriot he promptly enlisted in the troop.

What was a Cornet? The colonists, as a matter of course, copied English customs and language for names and designations. In giving officers to this troop of horse they used the same names as in England, though not altogether applicable here. The three commissioned officers of a troop in England were Captain, Lieutenant and Cornet. The Cornet carried the colors of the troop. We cannot conceive of a Cornet carrying a flag on horseback through the woods in Indian warfare. He was in reality the third officer, whose duty it was to take command in the absence of the Captain and Lieutenant, or to command detachments of the troop when ordered. His work was that of a Second Lieutenant, his office Cornet, because that was the name of it. I doubt if there were ever in the whole history of this whole country more than half a dozen Cornets. Captains, Lieutenants, Majors and Colonels have existed in thousands. I am glad he was Cornet and not Captain, for Cornet Stetson is a name of especial and unique distinction, he standing almost alone as such.

Just here, and in connection with this office, I wish to show that he was never sent as a commissioner to treat with Philip and to try to persuade that chieftian to abandon the warpath. In my search of the records I think I discovered how the mistake occurred, and that Cornet Stetson did take an important part in that mission, though not as commissioner. The importance with which it was regarded is shown by the men selected for it. They were Major Winslow, Captain Southworth and the Treasurer of the Colony, Mr. Southworth. Detailed to do escort duty in this perilous journey was a part of the troop of horse. To command



THE MICAH STETSON HOMESTEAD, NEARLY TWO HUNDRED YEARS OLD.



UNCLE SILAS STETSON HOMESTEAD, NEARLY 200 YEARS OLD.

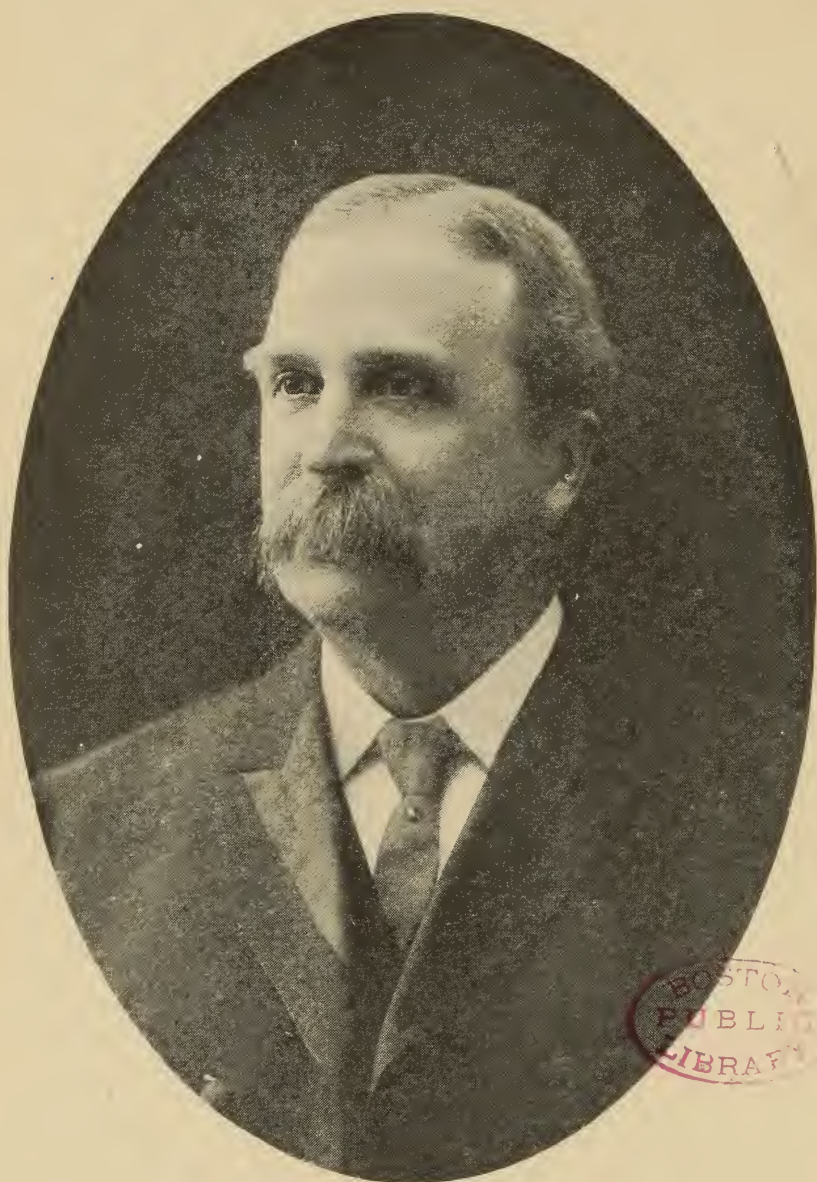
this detachment which was to protect the Commissioners and to safeguard the whole expedition they selected neither Captain Bradford nor Lieutenant Freeman, but Cornet Stetson. He was probably selected for more reasons than one. It was a recognition of his superior military tact and courage for action in all kinds of possible emergencies, but probably also of the value of the services he could render in the conference with Philip. He was not nominally a Commissioner, but was, no doubt, potent in that conference, which led to Philip's disarming for a time and coming to Plymouth to try to explain and recover favor.

I wish to say a few words about the coat of arms that is so much in evidence today. People who become interested in genealogy often develop a weakness for a coat of arms. This has been taken advantage of by designing persons, and they are often manufactured to order. There is something akin to the ridiculous in the coats of arms displayed by some persons. I think that something better can be claimed for the Stetson coat of arms. It is said to have been found, and the claim seems to be well founded, among Robert Stetson's papers. If so it could not have been something he took that belonged to some other family and brought over here into the wilderness. There could be no inducement for him to do so. It could be of no use to him in clearing forests, fighting Indians or planting corn. It could be of no earthly use or ornament in the New World for many generations to come, and this level-headed youth knew all that. But he took it and brought it here, just as he would pack away and bring with him a Christmas gift, an old love letter or a keepsake of any kind, simply because it was something that belonged to him, a coat of arms he had a right to bear, something he could look at and be reminded as by any other memento of old England. Coming thus we have a right to regard it as genuine. There is little or nothing else that he looked upon in life that we can now see in exactly the same form he saw it. In this coat of arms we look at something preserving the same outlines he saw.

The nearest thing to him in existence here today, the only thing we can feel sure his hands have touched are the old stone

walls on this farm. Some of these—we can never know which—were, must have been, built by him. We should let them all stand, lest in removing them we destroy some of his sacred handiwork. They may be restored, using the stones that have fallen down, the same he handled. But removed, never!

He was a business man. He took a lease of the Cape fishery at one time. There was great need of a sawmill in the south part of the town of Scituate, and the town voted quite large privileges to whoever would build one on the Third Herring Brook, provided it was begun within three months. He filed with the proper officers a certificate signed by two men, who therein stated that on the last day of the three months they were in the woods with Cornet Stetson, preparing timber to build the mill. And the mill was built. It was in him not to let this opportunity to engage in the manufacture of lumber pass by. He was the main man in the enterprise, and it was always known as the Cornet's Mill, though Timothy Hatherly and Joseph Tilden had some interest in it with him. This mill was burned by the Indians in 1676. Then or later he built another sawmill on the Indian Head River. To get the requisite fall of water at his first mill it was necessary to flow a large tract of land, known to the present day as "Old Pond." Vestiges of the dam still remain. The enterprise of Cornet Stetson, as it turned towards manufacturing, saw power and utility in this artificial fall of water by him created. Those who believe in heredity, and it must be we all of us do to some extent, may perhaps see how this trait lurking in the blood through all the intervening generations cropped out at the present day, when a descendant of the Cornet, with others, harnessed the mighty forces of Niagara Falls for the creation of an electric plant that furnishes power to run the machinery of a multitude of great factories and light great cities, benefiting and blessing mankind. This mighty magician of our race has been moving about among us today so quietly and modestly that you will not suspect his identity. It is harking back a long way from this wonderful plant at Niagara to the little sawmill at "Old Pond" for cause and effect, and the man who is doing such great things today will



W. W. STETSON.
Augusta, Me.
A DIRECTOR.

not feel flattered at my taking the credit from him and giving it to this remote ancestor. But I am the advocate today of the Cornet's cause.

As a descendant, not only of Cornet Stetson, but also of his revered pastor, the Rev. William Witherell, I deem it peculiarly proper that I should make mention of his religious life. It is not probable that he became connected with any church until about the time the Second, or North River, Church was gathered. This church was formed in 1643 by separation of some of its members from the first church at Scituate. This separation was because Mr. Chauncy, pastor of the first church and later President of Harvard College, was then a Baptist, denying infant baptism and baptising only by immersion. Sept. 7, 1645, Mr. Witherell was installed as minister of the new church. Just four weeks later, Oct. 5, 1645, Robert Stetson brought to baptism his three sons, Joseph, Benjamin and Thomas, and later, from time to time, as they were born, his other children. This would indicate that he was promptly and continuously observant of religious duties. I find only two occasions in which he served on church committees. One was on the building of a new meeting house, the other in 1653, when an effort was made to procure a reconciliation with the other church in Scituate. While he never shirked any duty, I infer that he regarded religious controversy and intolerant zeal no essential points in Christian living. Not seeking to be especially prominent in church affairs, there is reason to believe he was one of those decided, consistent, peace-loving and every day Christians who are the especial stay and support of faithful ministers. There is also good reason to believe the relations between him and his pastor were close and confidential, and when their families were united by the marriage of Samuel Witherell to Eunice Rogers it must have been very gratifying to her grandfather, the aged Cornet.

So far as the records show in his long life of ninety years, he was engaged in only one lawsuit. My criticism of that, Mr. President, is that he was not sufficiently mindful of the interests of our profession. But in reply to that perhaps the company before us would say he was the wiser and happier for avoiding litigation.

About 1681 or 1682, when he was nearing seventy years of age, he practically abandoned public life. He had performed his full duty therein and had done it well. He also sold his sawmill on the Indian Head River and his lands west of Scituate for three hundred pounds, and with his children and grandchildren settled around him, the wars all over, prolonged peace apparently assured, evidently he intended to take life at an easier pace. And right here, thus surrounded by his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all living in this same neighborhood, all ministering to his comfort and happiness, his must have been an ideal and truly patriarchal old age, for at his death he left six children, fifty-six grandchildren and twenty-three great-grandchildren. Was ever man more blessed than he. Let us hope that the faithful wife who had borne with him the burden and heat of the earlier day lived long enough to enjoy a little of this later calm. Though it could not have been long, as some time later than 1684, we know not the date, he married as a second wife Mary Bryant, widow of John Bryant.

He died Feb. 1, 1703. In his will, dated five months earlier, Sept. 4, 1702, he recited that he was "weak in body" and in "daily expectation of his last and great change." This may indicate he was feeling the weight of years, and that whatever may have been the proximate cause, the real determining cause of his death was old age, and his end was peace. And he was buried. But where? He and all the other earliest settlers have gone, "Alike without their monumental stone." We would give much could we surround his grave today. Perhaps we have. He died in midwinter, at the usually most inclement season of cold and snow. There was no settled minister over his own church, and if religious services were held, probably Mr. Cushing of the other church attended. It was several miles to the graveyard of the parish. At that season it was more than likely a difficult matter to go so far. Mr. George C. Turner of Norwell, his descendant, has performed an invaluable service in searching out and giving to the world in published form a list of all the gravestones in that old burial ground, and in it there is nothing to favor the theory that he was



MISS SUSEY A. SMITH.

Kingston.

A DIRECTOR.

buried there. The oldest gravestone was dated 1689. Private burial lots were not uncommon in those earlier days. I think the probability is that he and some, if not all of his family, were buried on his own farm, and not unlikely within the bounds of the land that is soon to be ours. And this will be a doubly holy shrine if it holds such sacred dust. Whether it be so is one of the things we may hope, but hardly expect, will be determined with certainty later on. So it seems to me that close by where we are gathered today they laid him away in everlasting rest by the side of that beloved wife who was the faithful mother of his large family.

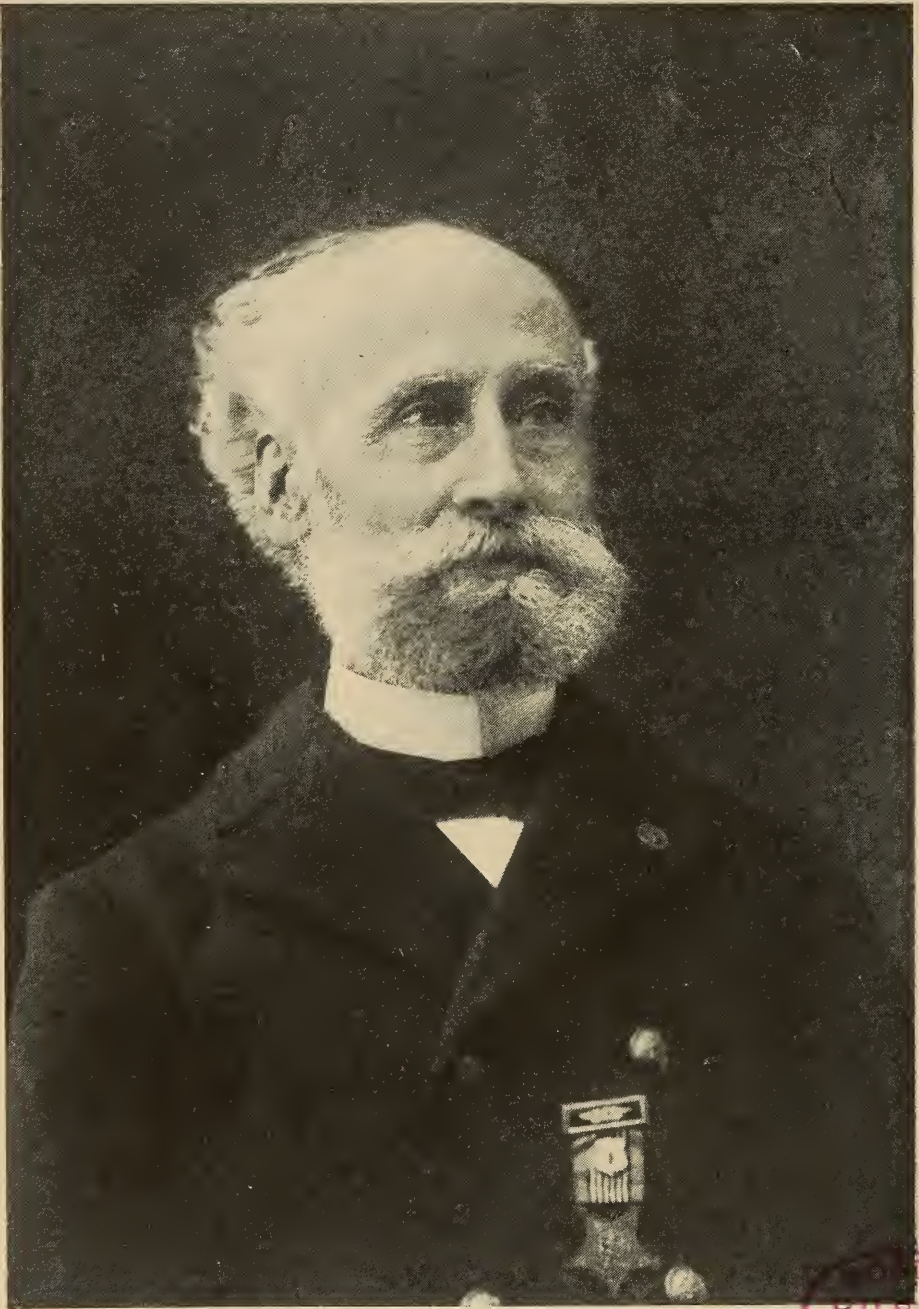
But who and what manner of woman was she. I have searched long and vainly to discover her maiden name. It seems to be altogether lost in that of her husband. Even her first name appears not to be anywhere preserved. I believe it was Eunice. Probably if not Eunice it was Lois, as those were the names of her two daughters. But whatever her name she became the wife of Robert Stetson and the mother of us all.

To this sainted mother's fragrant memory we should pay honors as large, devotion as true as we render to him who was the patriarch of the race. She came to his side in the full and brave consciousness that she was taking up a life of toil, anxiety, privation, hardship and danger such as in this age of comparative ease we can have no adequate conception of. That she was a woman of rare gifts I can have no doubt, for it was necessary to the sequence. She must have had a good intellect, some education, strong faith, great courage, tact and wisdom. Without such qualities in large measure she could not under such difficult conditions and in so secluded a place have reared and prepared for their great after usefulness so many fairly well educated children. A good mother deserves the highest homage. I cannot but respect the great Roman Catholic branch of the Christian Church for so magnifying motherhood in giving such holy eminence to Mary, the mother of Jesus. Cornelia, the Roman matron, when asked about her jewels, pointed to her two sons and said: "These are my jewels." I will quote here what I once said elsewhere: "Maternity

is woman's crown, children the crown jewels which the humblest mother in the land may proudly wear and regally display, provided only their characters are rightly shaped and polished." And God blesses maternity, for with rare exception the women who live longest and enjoy most are the mothers of large families.

What sort of a man Robert Stetson was can be inferred only from his life. No portrait of him ever existed. No description of him was ever written. The lineaments of that strong face, the contour of that stalwart form are lost forever in the ashes of an unknown grave. Nevertheless, from what we know of his life, I think we may predicate something even concerning these. It was a face usually grave, thoughtful, earnest and resolute. Also compassionate and kind, for one unhappy incident has disclosed the fact that he was not only entirely free from the alleged austerity of his age, but was a most forbearing and affectionate father. As to his person, it was strong and muscular. It must have been to bear the wear and strain of all that was laid upon it and endure for ninety years. All the labor of the farm and mill, all the unusual weight of the responsibility of official life during the Indian war period in which he served, and all the toilsome, perilous journeys he was compelled to make—all this called for exceptional health and strength.

Of how strong and able a character he was we can have a quite accurate conception. We read of a stone age, an iron age and a golden age. I would call the age in which he lived here in America the merit age. Men were elected to office, not to gratify their personal ambition, nor because they could deceive the people by the arts and tricks of the politicians. They were elected upon their merits alone. They were elected because their fellow-citizens knew they were well qualified to perform perilous and important duties under hard conditions. They were elected because of their pre-eminent fitness. Something also may be inferred from the environment, from the kind of community out of which a man is taken, as one manifestly superior to his fellows in the qualities required. In 1654 Scituate had become the foremost town in the Colony. In population, wealth and enterprise it had far out-



WARREN B. STETSON.
Middleboro'.
A DIRECTOR.



stripped Plymouth. It paid about fifty per cent. more in taxes, furnished nearly twice as many men for the war and in every way ranked first.

Many of her citizens were well educated and able men. John Hoar, ancestor of the distinguished family of that name; Edward Saffin and Edward Foster were lawyers. Timothy Hatherly, General James Cudworth, Vassall, Torrey, Tilden, Turner, Chittenden and many others were strong and able men. What I claim in that connection is that out of such a community, at such a time, Robert Stetson would not have been elected Deputy the very first year he was eligible, and kept in that office by annual elections for eight consecutive years, unless he had been a man of superior intellect and surpassing wisdom. Observe they elected him not to some inferior place, but to the highest office at their disposal. If such a community as that placed such a high estimate upon his worth, ability and character, shall we, his descendants, not take him at the same valuation and believe that, though living a simple life, he was a truly great man? But we have other testimony than that of his fellow townsmen. When he went to the Colony Court and entered into fellowship with the experienced rulers of the Colony, they speedily recognized his fitness for responsible service, and he soon became one of the busiest members of the government. He was placed among the foremost in many ways.

Of the wonderful circumspection and strict propriety of his personal life there is convincing negative evidence. During the time in which he lived the laws were so strict, punishing people for every possible peccadillo and the slightest offences, for a multitude of things that are now not offences at all—that as a consequence scarcely a person in the colony but at some time had to pay a fine. As Governor Long, a former President of the Pilgrim Society, truly said in a recent speech, many high in church and state were found guilty and fined. So universal was this that it was apparently regarded as of little consequence. To be fined for speaking disrespectfully of some one in office was a wrong. Usually a man should have been commended rather than fined.

But so correct and circumspect was the life of Robert Stetson, his name does not once appear in this category.

He was a farmer, mechanic, manufacturer, business man, legislator, military officer and judge, and in all his long, crowded, strenuous life not a single blot or blur upon his moral character to mar the record. Of how many men living or dead can this be said?

Descended from such a man and from such a woman, you would expect to find many able and useful men and women in all the walks of life. Rev. John Stetson Barry, the historian of the family, tells us that such was the case. I will mention one whom Barry had apparently not traced. From among her native born sons, Massachusetts has sent some great men to the United States Senate, but among them, never one who had so largely the courage of his convictions, who ever did and said greater things and suffered so much personally for performance of duty, never a greater or a grander man, than that illustrious descendant of Cornet Stetson, the Hon. Charles Sumner. But, alas! Sumner left no descendants. Of how many others of the Stetson race has not that been unfortunately true. I think it possible that President Roosevelt may be the best and longest remembered for standing up in his high place and uttering brave words in deprecation of race suicide. Is the Stetson family in danger of race suicide? Are its men too much engaged in purely selfish pursuits to take upon themselves the care of a family? It was God's great and first command to the human race, "Multiply and replenish the earth." It is a command the disregard of which by declination of the marriage relation carries its own penalty along with it,

"The man concentrated all in self," whatever his "renown," must
 "die unwept." "No loved one nigh
 He is floating down by himself to die."

No one to care for him in old age and last sickness, weep at his departure and keep his memory alive. Contrast with such a going off the case of Cornet Stetson. Enveloped in the tender care and

love of his great retinue of children and children's children, he forgot almost that it was nightfall, and passed from this to an eternal state of things almost oblivious to the great transition. And though it may have been a short journey from his home to his grave, it was a long procession of mourning children and grandchildren that followed and kept his name in vivid remembrance, as have his posterity even unto the present day. But will this continue? Is that insidious disease, "race suicide," at work among us? If so, the time will come, perhaps not very long hence, when the last Stetson shall painfully seek this place, look sadly around over the old homestead, turn sorrowfully away and the last sentence in the history of the Stetson family will be written and the record closed. This is really too gloomy a picture for a festal occasion, and I will try to paint one more optimistic. Will take for its inspiration an extract from the last will and testament of Robert Stetson: "Further, it is my will that my sd. eldest son shall not alien or sell any of the lands above given him unless to his children or one of them." In this I read between the lines an implied wish that the immediate homestead, which he had given to his oldest son Joseph might remain always, if possible, in the family. Never did such a testamentary hope find fuller fruition.

In the line of his son, Joseph Stetson, it continued until 1835, two hundred years from the time he first landed here and began to clear the land. Then, by the death of Charles Stetson, it passed to the Sampson family, still in the blood, but not in the name. The time came, however, when it was offered for sale and seemed likely to pass into stranger hands. Mr. George W. Stetson obtained an option upon it for a time. Subsequently a descendant of Joseph, the "sd. eldest son" of the Cornet, became interested and came to the rescue. He had the opportunity and the ability to make it his own personal possession. But that he saw would not in the fullest degree secure the accomplishment of the Cornet's wish, would not make it certain the property would be kept out of the market and away from strange hands, for "Men may come and men may go," but a corporation he knew would, like Tenny-

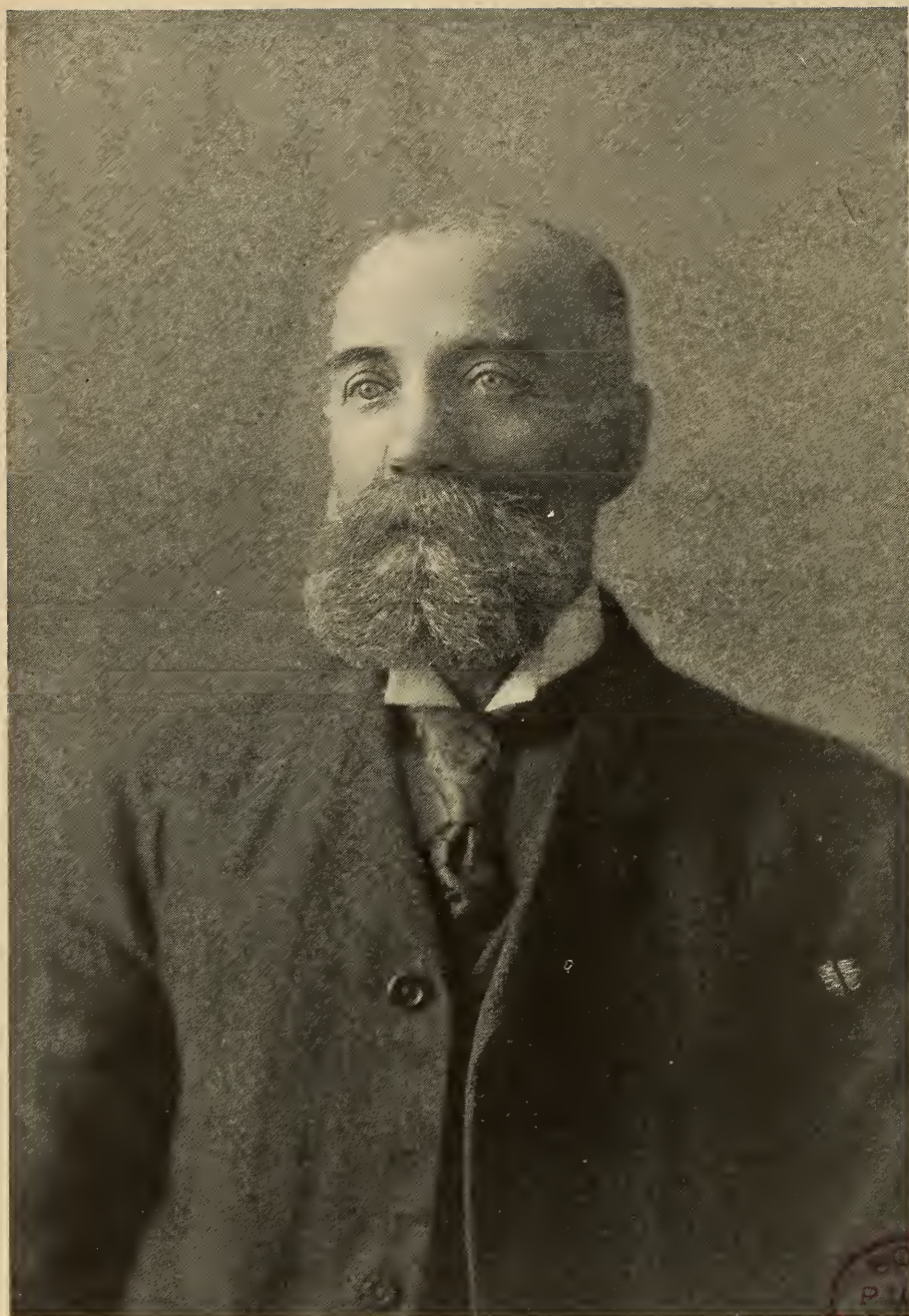
son's brook, "Go on for ever." So with unique unselfishness that is beyond precedent and above all praise he interested himself to provide and procure the means to have this homestead secured for the whole family, for all of us who will join the corporation.

I refer to this not to commend him, for he would deprecate that, and I do it in the fear that it may offend him, risking that in the hope that it may be an inspiration to you to stand by him in his altogether patriotic endeavor and aid him in every way in your power. To resolve that this enterprise and our race shall not perish from off the earth. To say that in all things so far as possible we will emulate the great example of our revered ancestor, Cornet Robert Stetson. If we, if all the descendants thus resolve and keep the resolution, then will this indeed be a sacred shrine whither pilgrims of the Stetson kindred from year to year and from generation to generation in constantly increasing numbers, shall journey forever and forever.

Remarks were made by other members of the kindred and officers were elected as follows:

President, Francis Lynde Stetson, of New York; Vice-President, Robert Stetson Gorham, of Boston; Secretary and Treasurer, George W. Stetson, of Medford, Mass.; Executive Committee, George W. Stetson, Warren B. Stetson, of Middleboro; Miss Susey A. Smith, of Kingston, Mass.; Board of Directors, the above and Daniel E. Damon, of Plymouth; Eugene E. Stetson, of Norwell; James B. Stetson, of San Francisco, Cal.; Thomas D. Stetson, of New York; W. W. Stetson, of Augusta, Me., and Albert Stetson, of Los Angeles, Cal.

The memorial minute adopted by the Directors on the death of the first Vice-President of the corporation was read and the action of the Directors endorsed by a rising vote.



EUGENE E. STETSON.

Hanover.

A DIRECTOR.

THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OF THE CORPORATION

Stetson Kindred of America, Inc.

OFFICERS.

Officers—President, Francis Lynde Stetson, New York City, N. Y.; Vice-President, Robert Stetson Gorham, Newton, Mass.; Secretary and Treasurer, George William Stetson, Medford, Mass. Executive Committee—George W. Stetson, Medford, Mass.; Warren B. Stetson, Middleboro, Mass.; Miss Susey A. Smith, Kingston, Mass.

Board of Directors—The above officers and Daniel E. Damon, Plymouth, Mass.; Eugene E. Stetson, Norwell, Mass.; James B. Stetson, San Francisco, Cal.; Thomas Drew Stetson, New York, N. Y.; W. W. Stetson, Augusta, Me.; Albert Stetson, Los Angeles, Cal.

MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION.

The Above Officers and Members of the Corporation.

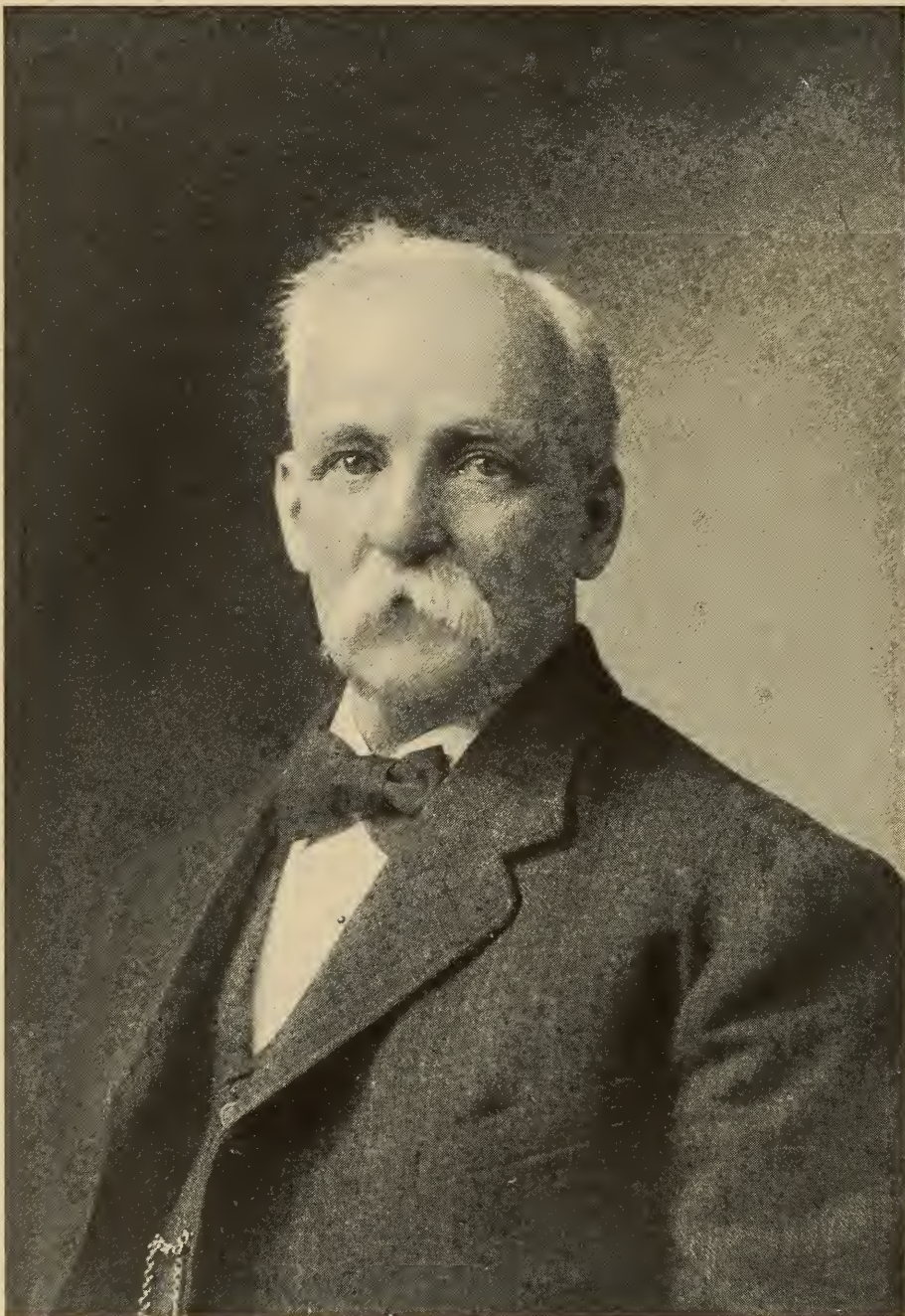
Cyrus H. Stetson.....	Bridgewater, Mass.
Mrs. Augusta B. Cheney.....	Kingston, Mass.
Mrs. C. J. Turner.....	N. Pembroke, Mass.
Loretta F. Stetson.....	So. Weymouth, Mass.
*William Stetson	Brockton, Mass.
Miss Helen Cushman.....	Brockton, Mass.
Miss Ethel F. Stetson.....	Whitman, Mass.
F. W. Stetson.....	Boston, Mass.
Mrs. Ellen B. Dyer.....	Hanover, Mass.
Mrs. J. Anderson Bennett.....	Quincy, Mass.
Miss Harriet S. Stetson.....	Bridgewater, Mass.
America E. Stetson.....	Whitman, Mass.

*Died since list was in type.

James H. Stetson.....	Quincy, Mass.
George R. Stetson.....	New Bedford, Mass.
James S. Stetson.....	Bridgewater, Mass.
Nelson M. Stetson.....	Duxbury, Mass.
Clara Sigsby Stetson.....	Duxbury, Mass.
Harriet J. Ford.....	Duxbury, Mass.
C. F. Stetson.....	Duxbury, Mass.
Frank D. Stetson.....	East Whitman, Mass.
Arthur W. Stetson.....	Quincy, Mass.
F. D. Stetson.....	New Bedford, Mass.
Winslow Stetson.....	Boston, Mass.
Miss Alice Cushman.....	Brockton, Mass.
John N. S. Stetson.....	Brookline, Mass.
George W. Stetson.....	Middleborough, Mass.
Amos W. S. Anderson.....	Quincy, Mass.
Miss Esther S. Barry.....	Newtonville, Mass.
Martin Thayer.....	Onset, Mass.
Forest Leslie Stetson.....	Greenfield, Mass.
Robert C. Stetson.....	Stockbridge, Mass.
Israel Hatch	N. Marshfield, Mass.
W. Graydon Stetson.....	Brookline, Mass.
Mrs. Mary Clarke Stirrett.....	New Bedford, Mass.
Chester S. Stirrett.....	New Bedford, Mass.
Charlotte M. A. C. Spaulding.....	New Bedford, Mass.
Elsie A. Pratt.....	Rockland, Mass.
Ethel I. Stetson.....	Norwell, Mass.
Fannie S. W. Bates.....	Hanover, Mass.
Laura G. Pierce.....	Quincy, Mass.
Caroline M. Haggett.....	Natick, Mass.
Thomas C. Sampson.....	Norwell, Mass.
Sarah L. Sampson.....	Norwell, Mass.
George C. Turner.....	Norwell, Mass.
Joshua S. Gray.....	Rockland, Mass.
Mrs. Marion S. Jones.....	Brattleboro, Vt.
Mrs. Marion W. Y. McIntire.....	Denver, Col.
A. F. Stetson.....	Bangor, Me.
Edward Stetson	Bangor, Me.
John E. Stetson.....	South Royalston, Vt.
George H. Stetson.....	New York, N. Y.
Mrs. Dora W. Miller.....	Williamsport, Pa.
Joseph F. Stetson.....	Camden, Me.
John Smedley Stetson.....	New York, N. Y.
Frederic T. Stetson.....	New York, N. Y.

Arthur Dana Stetson.....	Brooklyn, N. Y.
George R. Stetson.....	Palmyra, N. Y.
Mary Clarke Cluett.....	Troy, N. Y.
George B. Cluett, 2d.....	Troy, N. Y.
Hiram W. Stetson.....	Burlington, Vt.
Herbert Randall.....	Hartford, Conn.
Mrs. Adaline B. Wheeler.....	Camden, Me.
Ada M. Wheeler.....	Camden, Me.
William M. Pierson.....	Alton, Ill.
Joshua A. Stetson.....	Providence, R. I.
Charles W. Stetson.....	Lonsdale, Pa.
Helen Stetson Larkin.....	Plattsburgh, N. Y.
Mrs. George E. Crane.....	Chicago, Ill.
Martin V. B. Stetson.....	Gloversville, N. Y.
Abby Leach.....	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Isaiah K. Stetson.....	Bangor, Me.
Caroline L. Baker.....	Plattsburgh, N. Y.
Anna Leach.....	Troy, N. Y.
Henry H. Josselyn.....	Hanover, Mass.
Benjamin L. Stetson.....	S. Hanover, Mass.
Sarah C. Stetson Bates.....	S. Hanover, Mass.
Lewis Reed	Rockland, Mass.
Ernest C. Stetson.....	Brockton, Mass.
Arthur H. Dyer.....	Norwell, Mass.
Horace T. Fogg.....	Norwell, Mass.
Lucy J. Stockbridge.....	S. Hanover, Mass.
Edith W. Curtis.....	S. Hanover, Mass.
Marcia P. Bates.....	Bridgewater, Mass.
Emma P. Pierce.....	East Milton, Mass.
Arthur Young.	Winthrop, Mass.
Quincy Reed	Whitman, Mass.
Dorothy Stetson	Waban, Mass.
John A. Stetson.....	Brookline, Mass.
Nellie M. Sparrell.....	Everett, Mass.
Jedediah Dwelley.....	N. Hanover, Mass.
Edith Leach.....	Northampton, Mass.
Mrs. N. M. Williams.....	Brockton, Mass.
Reuben C. Donnell.....	Hanover, Mass.
Cushing Hatch	Norwell, Mass.
Stella Jacobs Brown.....	Plymouth, Mass.
Rosabel S. Dunham.....	Bridgewater, Mass.
Ella Stetson Thayer.....	Brookline, Mass.
Fred B. Clapp.....	Somerville, Mass.

Mrs. George C. Morrow.....Brockton, Mass.
Mrs. Ella J. Torrey.....Rockland, Mass.
Edwin E. Jacobs.....Assinippi, Mass.
Susan R. Clapp.....Somerville, Mass.
Amos A. Phelps.....Rockand, Mass.
Mrs. Sarah E. Allen.....Hanover, Mass.
Frank L. Stetson.....Medford, Mass.
William F. Stetson.....Roxbury, Mass.



G. W. STETSON.

Medford, Mass.

SEC'Y-TREAS

COPY OF THE DEED.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that I, THOMAS C. SAMPSON, of Norwell in the County of Plymouth and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in consideration of One Dollar and other valuable considerations paid by the STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA, INC., a corporation under the laws of Massachusetts, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby give, grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said Stetson Kindred of America, Inc., its successors and assigns, the following described land, with the buildings thereon, situate in said Norwell, containing about forty-six and one-half acres, bounded:—

Northerly by land of Maria W. Tolman, land of Mary A. Studley and Emma L. Packard; easterly by land of Mary A. Studley and Emma L. Packard, land of William S. Simmons, land of Eliza Smith and land of Morrill A. Phillips, William C. Bates and H. W. Chandler, trustees; southerly and northerly by land of said trustees; then southerly by land of William S. Simmons; then easterly by land of William S. Simmons; then northerly by land of said Simmons; then easterly by a creek; then southerly by land of William C. Tolman; then easterly and northerly by land of said William C. Tolman; then easterly by land of John Knapp; then southerly by land of James C. Waterman; then easterly by land of James C. Waterman, land of Alpheus Damon and land of F. E. Henderson; southerly by land of Gilbert West and land of Mary A. Studley and Emma L. Packard; then westerly and northerly by land of Ruthetta M. Sylvester, Emily E. Sylvester, R. Irving Sylvester, Maria W. Sylvester, Herbert R. Sylvester and Martha W. Turner; then southerly by land of Edward P. Tolman; then westerly again by land of Thomas C. Sampson and land of Henry D. Smith; together with a right of way from said land to Elm Street appertaining to said land, all as shown on two plans by C. S. Deane, Surveyor, dated August, 1906, on file with case numbered 1489 in the office of the Land Court.

This conveyance is made subject to the existing rights of way, if any.

For my title reference may be had to said case numbered 1489 in the Land Court, in which I was Petitioner.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the granted premises, with all the privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging, to the said Stetson Kindred of America, Inc., and its successors and assigns, to their own use and behoof forever.

And I hereby, for myself and my heirs, executors and administrators, covenant with the grantee and his heirs and assigns, that I am lawfully seized in fee simple of the granted premises; that they are free from all incumbrances, except possible rights of way as aforesaid; that I have good right to sell and convey the same as aforesaid; and that I will, and my heirs, executors and administrators shall, WARRANT and DEFEND the same to the grantee and his heirs and assigns forever against the lawful claims and demands of all persons.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, the said Thomas C. Sampson, being unmarried, hereunto set my hand and seal this 28th day of December in the year One thousand nine hundred and six.

(Signed) THOMAS C. SAMPSON. (Seal)

Signed and sealed)

in presence of)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SUFFOLK, ss:

BOSTON, DECEMBER 28, 1906.

Then personally appeared the above-named Thomas C. Sampson, and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his free act and deed.

Before me,

(Signed) HENRY L. SHATTUCK,

Justice of the Peace.

December 31, 1906, at 4 o'clock and 40 minutes P. M.
Received and entered with Plymouth Co. Deeds, Libro 959, folio 282-3.

(Signed) JOHN B. WASHBURN,

Register.

OWNER'S DUPLICATE CERTIFICATE.

Original Certificate of Title Registered In Book 1, Page 70.
No. 70.

Entered pursuant to a decree of the Land Court, dated at Boston, in the County of Suffolk and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the twentieth day of February, in the year nineteen hundred and seven, and numbered 1489 on the files of said Court.

COPY OF DECREE.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

LAND COURT.

In the matter of the Petition of THOMAS C. SAMPSON, numbered 1489, after consideration, the Court doth adjudge and decree that the STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA, INC., a corporation organized under the laws of said Commonwealth, and whose name has been substituted on motion, is the owner in fee simple of that certain parcel of land situate in Norwell in the County of Plymouth and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: Southerly on land now or formerly of Mary A. Studley et al and land now or formerly of Gilbert West, 1349.25 feet; westerly 224 feet, northerly 283.5 feet and westerly 734.7 feet, all on land now or formerly of Ruthetta M. Sylvester et als; southerly on said Sylvester land and land now or formerly of Edward P. Tolman, 394 feet; westerly again on land now or formerly of Thomas C. Sampson and land now or formerly of Henry D. Smith, 776.5 feet; northerly 238 feet, easterly 205.5 feet, northerly 57.5 feet and northwesterly 434.75 feet, all on land now or formerly of Maria W. Tolman; northerly again 368 feet and easterly 445.5 feet on land now or formerly of Mary A. Studley et al; southeasterly 262.7 feet and northerly 97.33 feet on land now or formerly of William C. Litchfield; easterly again on land now or formerly of Eliza Smith, 152.5 feet; southerly 340 feet, easterly 340.75 feet and northerly by a ditch to the middle of a creek, all on land now or formerly of Morrill A. Phillips et als, Trustees; northeasterly by the middle of said creek on land now or formerly of Charles Barnard; southerly by a ditch, easterly 97.5 feet and again north-

erly by a ditch to the middle of said creek, the last three lines all on land now or formerly of William C. Litchfield; northeasterly again by the middle of said creek on said Barnard land; southerly by a ditch, easterly and again northerly by a ditch to the middle of a creek; the last three lines on land now or formerly of William C. Tolman; easterly by a creek, southeasterly by a ditch about 253 feet and easterly about 172 feet on land now or formerly of John Knapp; southerly on land now or formerly of James C. Waterman about 465 feet and easterly on said Waterman land, land now or formerly of Alpheus Damon, and land now or formerly of F. E. Henderson, about 720 feet. So much of the above described land as is included within the right of way shown on the plan hereinafter mentioned at the southeast corner of the above described land is subject to the use of the same by the owners and occupants for the time being of said Alpheus Damon land and their assigns, and so much of the above described land as is included in the right of way running through the same from east to west as shown on said plan is subject to the use of the same by the owners and occupants for the time being of said James C. Waterman land and their assigns, said John Knapp land and their assigns, said William C. Tolman land and their assigns, said William C. Litchfield land lying between the two ditches, as shown on said plan and their assigns, said Charles Barnard land and their assigns, said Morrill A. Phillips et als, Trustees, land and their assigns, said Eliza Smith land and their assigns, and by the owners and occupants for the time being and their assigns of two parcels of land not adjacent to the above described, one belonging to Henry M. Stetson and the other to Seth Foster, said rights of way to be used by the said owners and occupants for the purposes only of carting wood and hay from the swamps and marshes easterly of the above described land. There is appurtenant to the above described land the right to pass at all times on foot and with vehicles from Elm Street to the above described land over the right of way shown on a plan of the same drawn by C. S. Deane, dated August, 1906, filed in the Land Registration Office, and all of the boundaries of the above described land are

determined by the Court to be located as shown on another plan drawn by said Deane, dated and filed as aforesaid, a copy of a portion of which is filed with the original certificate of title issued on this decree.

And the Court doth adjudge and decree that said land be brought under the operation and provisions of Chapter 128 of the Revised Laws, and that the title of said Stetson Kindred of America, Incorporated, to said land be confirmed and registered; subject, however, to any of the encumbrances mentioned in Section 38 of said Chapter which may be subsisting, and subject also as aforesaid.

Witness, LEONARD A. JONES, Esquire, Judge of the Land Court, at Boston, in said County of Suffolk, the twentieth day of February, in the year nineteen hundred and seven, at 10 o'clock and 30 minutes in the forenoon.

Attest, with the Seal of said Court,

[SEAL.] CLARENCE C. SMITH,
Recorder.

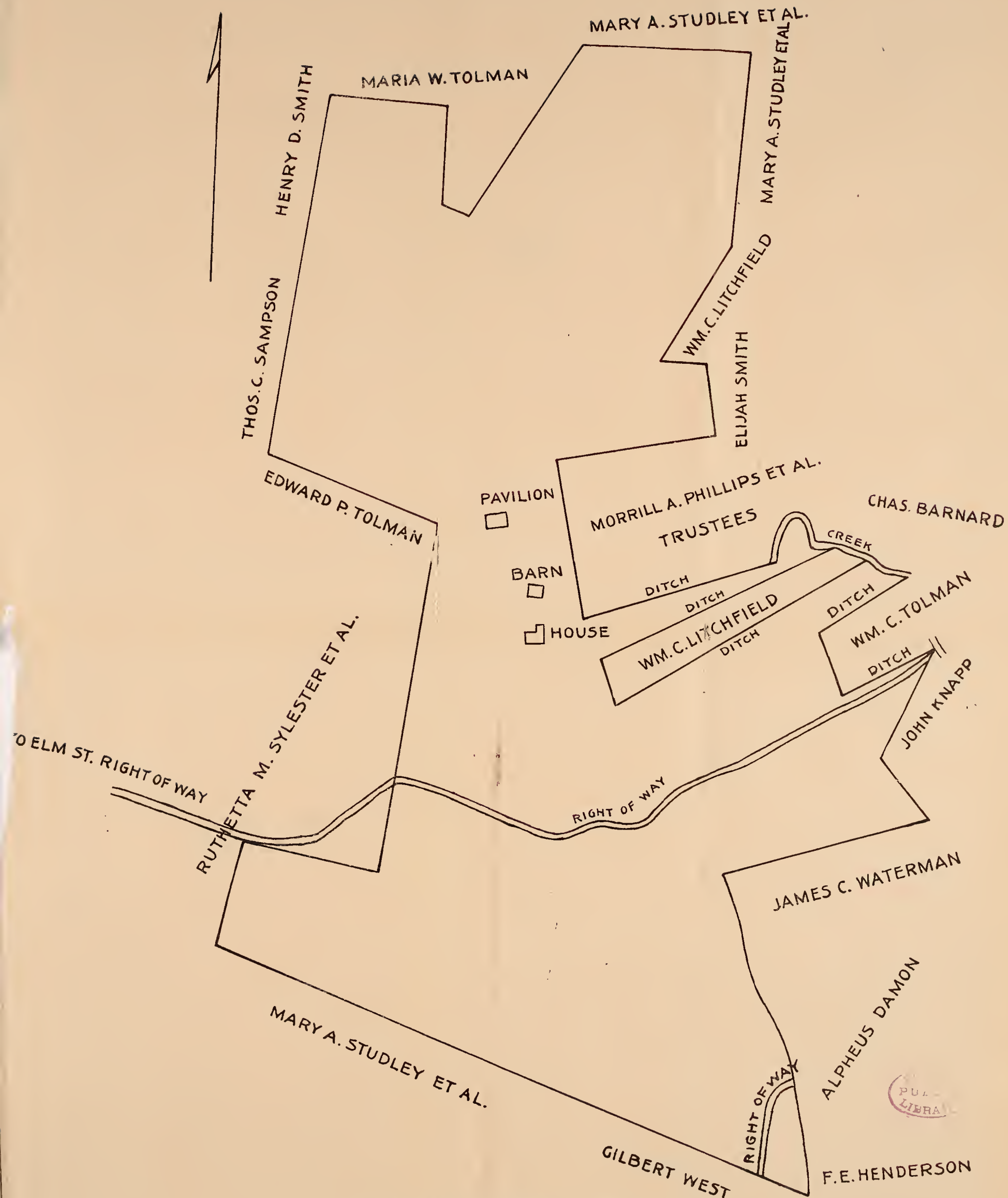
A true copy. Attest, with the Seal of said Court,

[SEAL.] CLARENCE C. SMITH,
Recorder.

Received for transcription at Plymouth County Registry District, February 23, 1907, at 9 o'clock and 30 minutes A. M.

A true copy. Attest, with the Seal of said Court,

JOHN B. WASHBURN.
Assistant Recorder.



MAP OF PROPERTY OF KINDRED, 46½ ACRES.
Scale 200 Feet to Inch.

1914

HOME & GARDEN

WATER & POWER

CONCRETE & STEEL

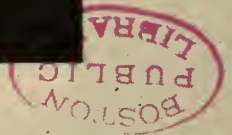
20

Stetson Kindred of America
INC.

**ACCOUNT OF
THIRD REUNION
AND
OTHER DATA**

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS





Truly yours
Francis Lynde Stetson

PRESIDENT STETSON.

New York City.

STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA

(Inc.)

ACCOUNT OF THIRD REUNION

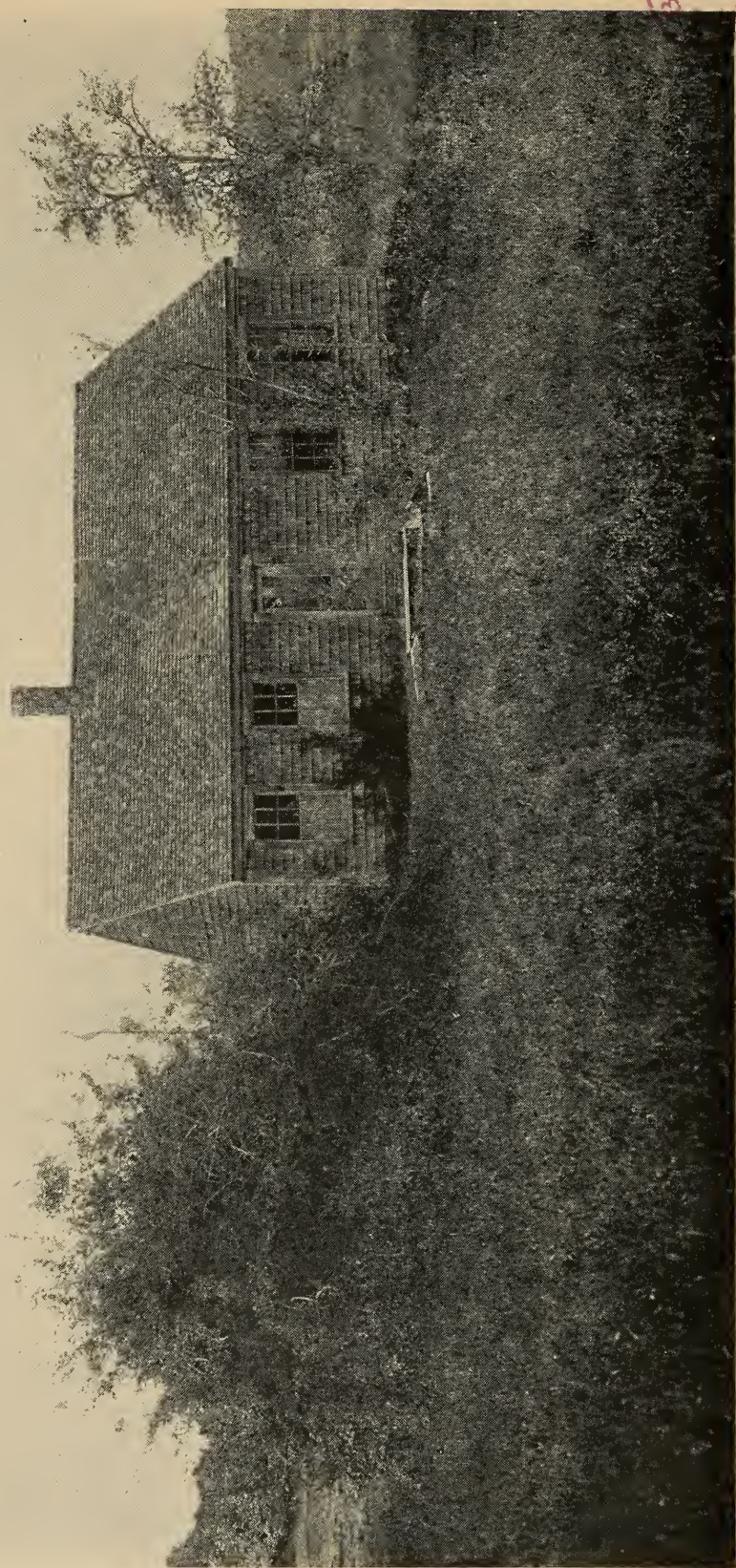
HELD AUGUST 17, 1907

ADDRESSES IN FULL NAMES OF OFFICERS
MEMBERS OF CORPORATION

With Illustrations

COMPILED BY THE SECRETARY

MEDFORD, MASS.
PRESS OF J. C. MILLER, JR., 3 AND 5 LAURIAT PLACE
1908



THE OLD HOUSE ON THE PROPERTY OF THE CORPORATION.

THE NEIGHBORS' GREETING.

Ye Stetson Kindred, from afar and near,
Again ye gather at your shrine so dear,
We welcome you, with flags and bunting gay,
On this your third reunion and bright festal day.

Down through the pastures, and the shady lane,
Toward North River, turn ye once again,
Unto the Cornet's old ancestral home,
Dearer than any spot, where'er ye roam.

And as each year shall roll around,
And other Stetson Kindred may be found,
You'll ne'er forget him, who did fill the place
Of first Vice-President of this grand old race.

His memory to you will e'er be dear,
As ye may gather here, from year to year,
Just think of him, as having gone before,
At rest with Kindred on the *other* shore.

As friends and neighbors, we an interest feel
In this great Kindred's common woe or weal,
May sunny skies and softest zephyrs fall
Upon the day ye celebrate, may one and all

Receive new impulse, as the day goes by.
And as the shadows fall, may the Most High
Keep watch and ward o'er each departing guest,
And may this day, to each and every one, be blest.

“T”

The Stetson Kindred of America.

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING.

The third annual meeting of the corporation was held at the "SHRINE," in the pavilion Saturday, August 17, 1907. The attendance was large, and the enthusiasm of the members up to a high pitch.

At 11.20 A.M. the Directors held a short session, and voted to recommend to the corporation certain amendments to the By-Laws.

At 11.30 A.M. the corporation was called to order by Vice-President Gorham, the recommendations of the Directors were made known, and the corporation passed unanimously the following amendments to Article 4 of the By-Laws.

VOTED: That Article IV of the By-Laws of the Stetson Kindred of America, Inc., is hereby amended by adding at the end of said Article the following paragraphs:

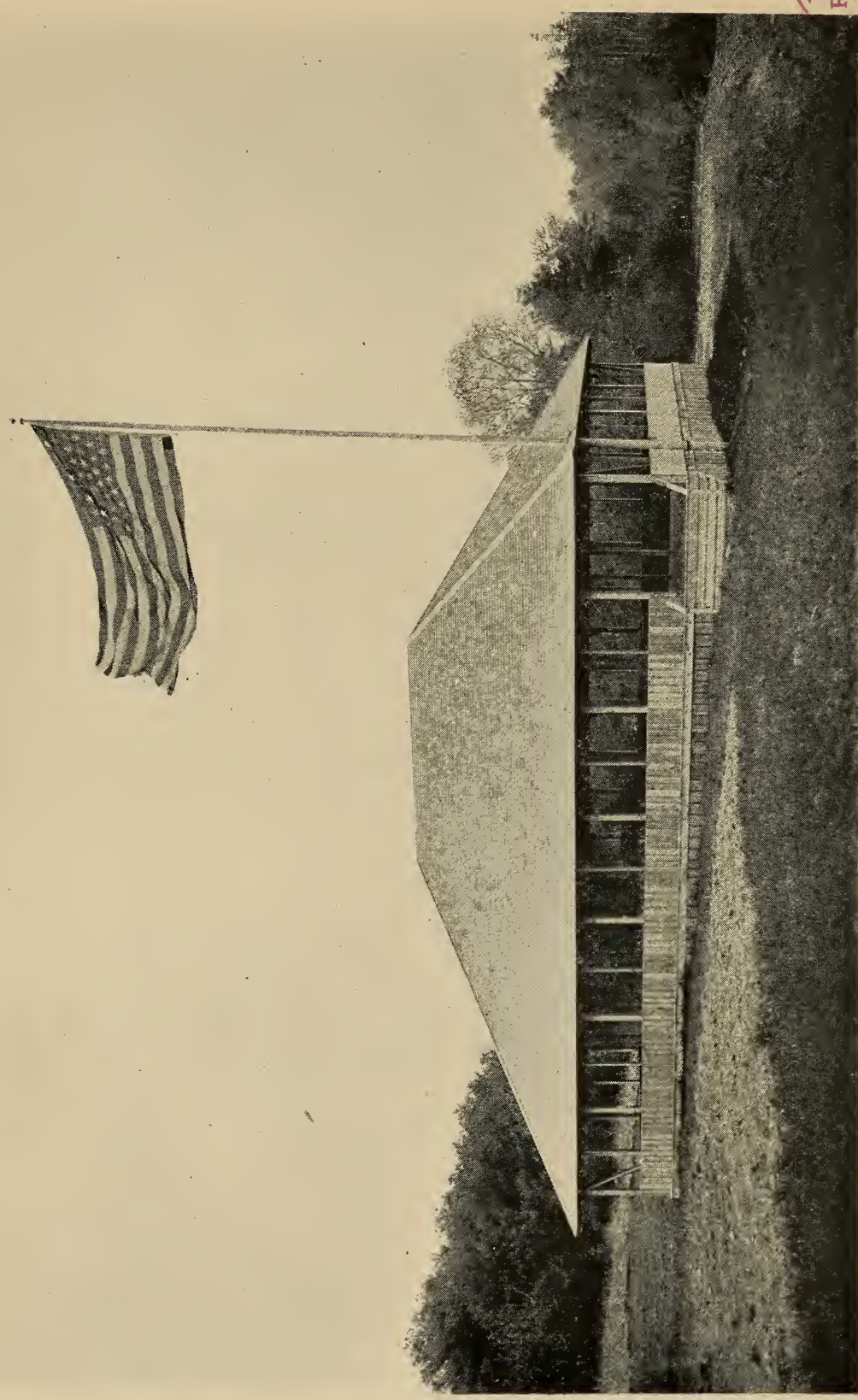
Honorary Life Membership.

By unanimous vote of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee, concurred in by vote of the members of the corporation present and voting at the annual meeting, or at any special meeting called for the purpose, persons who are members of the corporation, or who are eligible to membership, may be made Honorary Life Members of the corporation, without liability for admission fees or annual or other dues, but with the full rights and privileges of members.

Life Membership.

By unanimous vote of the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee, persons who are members of the corporation, or who are eligible to membership, may, upon payment of ten dollars (\$10.00), be made Life Members of the corporation, without liability for admission fees or annual or other dues, but with the full rights and privileges of members.

BOSTON
PUBLIC
LIBRARY



THE PAVILLION ON THE CORPORATION'S PROPERTY.

The following vote was then passed unanimously:

VOTED: In grateful recognition of the gift of the Stetson Homestead to the corporation by Francis Lynde Stetson, of New York City, the first President of the corporation, and by the late John B. Stetson, of Philadelphia, the first Vice-President, Honorary Life Membership, without annual or other dues, is hereby conferred upon said Francis Lynde Stetson and upon the present John B. Stetson, of Philadelphia, son of said John B. Stetson.

The meeting of the corporation was then adjourned.

A rallying song, written by Mrs. A. B. Cheney, one of the older and most enthusiastic members of the corporation, was sung, and then dinner was enjoyed. This latter was by the kind invitation of President Stetson. Dinner over, the President welcomed the clan, and the after dinner addresses were listened to with a great deal of interest. They are given in full herewith.

We must at this time allude to the warm, neighborly interest that the citizens of Norwell have taken in our corporation, as evidenced by their display of the "Stars and Stripes," and in other ways. To the Messrs. Barnard, Little, William and Henry Tolman, and Barker, especially do our hearts warm for their interest. And to others, if any there be whose name we may have slipped, we extend the greeting of the corporation.

In Mrs. Tolman's verses of greeting given herewith, we know all will see at a glance the feeling of the good people of Norwell, whose ancestry dates back with ours to the time of Cornet Robert Stetson.

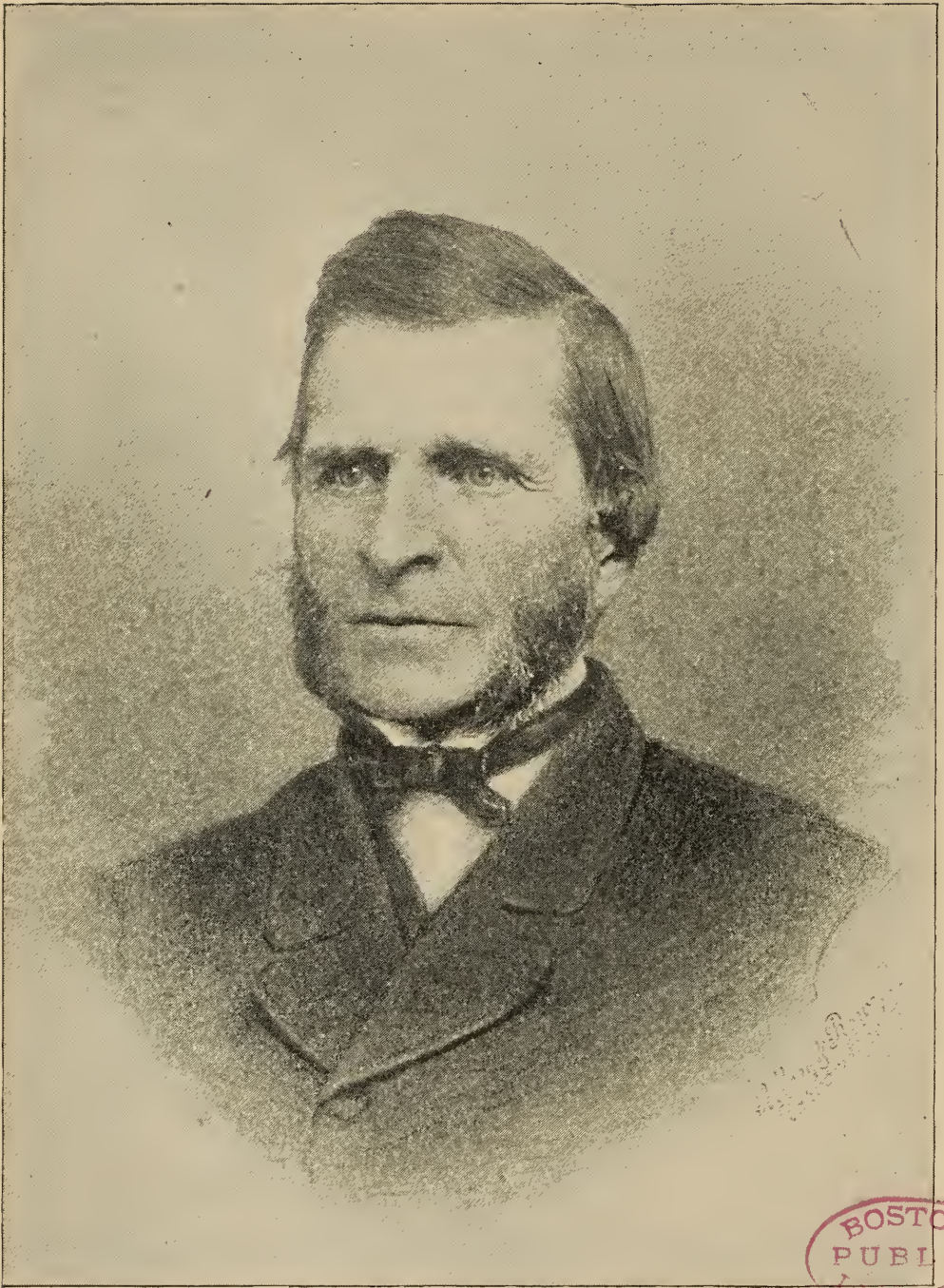
We are pleased to note in this connection that those above referred to count it as one of the events of their lives in that our President personally visited each individual, and extended not only his thanks but that of the association for their welcome so warmly made known.

All Honor to Cornet Robert Stetson.

To you, host and kinsman, our greeting we bring,
 For your liberal bounty, your praises we sing.
 To our Clan's active worker, untiring in deed,
 Our thanks in rich measure, we bring as your meed.
 To you, kith and kin, old and young, large and small,
 Friendly greeting we give to each and to all.

To the Shrine, we, the Stetsons have wended our way,
 To honor our forbear, the Cornet, today.
 The Cornet was loyal, the Cornet was true,
 He worked with a will when he found work to do.
 He fought the Red Indian, and knew no fear.
 He was chosen Deputy, year after year.
 He worked on his farm, he worked at his mill,
 And whatever he did, he did with a will.

We come from our homes in his honor this day,
 For such men as he have made Massachusetts Bay
 A name to be uttered with reverence and pride.
 Have crowned her with fame that now is world wide,
 Because they lived not for the day and the hour,
 But trusted in God and believed in his power.
 And felt that through them would dawn a new day
 Of freedom for all to think and to say
 Whatever they thought in their heart and their soul
 Would be for the good of each one and the whole;
 Because they endured, though hard was the toil,
 And made themselves homes, though barren the soil,
 And labored and saved and gave of their store,
 That churches and schools might grow more and more.
 Because they were sturdy and honest and true,
 Patriotic and brave, with hearts set to do
 Whatever their conscience should tell them was right,
 And ready to labor by day and by night.
 The rules that they followed were simple and right;
 No healths should they urge, should not wager or fight.



ISAIAH STETSON,
At the age of 54 years.

No comparisons draw, no secrets betray,
 No grievances utter, follow no evil way,
 From the bad stand aside, from state matters abstain,
 Harbor no evil thoughts, no Divine Ordinance profane.
 Long meals should they shun, for the carnal is sin,
 With feasting and drinking vice and folly begin.
 The Cornet was helpful the laws to maintain
 No blot on his 'scutcheon, no mar and no stain,
 But blameless in action, and upright and strong,
 And strenuous and earnest, he lived his life long.
 The lesson he leaves us is writ large and clear,
 Work, hope, and have courage, there's nothing to fear.
 Be earnest and steadfast, the future is sure.
 Have patience and faith, what is wrought will endure.

ABBY LEACH,
 Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

August 17, 1907.

THE STETSONS OF MAINE.

FELLOW-KINSMEN. — When our esteemed secretary, Mr. George W. Stetson, persuaded me to make a few remarks about "The Stetsons of Maine" on this occasion, I did not realize that we were so large a family, or that we had such an excellent family record in our state for good standing, honesty, and keen business ability. On behalf of the Stetsons of Maine, I say this with becoming modesty, for I realize that I am speaking to our relatives of Massachusetts, who I trust, will see that it goes no further.

I did not appreciate the fact that we had so many cousins in Maine till I wrote to the various relatives of high and low degree, and ascertained that, in the olden days, our forefathers did not believe in race suicide, and all of them, I am glad to say, left from four to seven boys to perpetuate the name, which is probably a much better record than the fathers of the present day can show.

Cornet Robert Stetson, our common ancestor, had six boys, all

of whom grew to manhood, married and left male descendants. They were Joseph, Benjamin, Thomas, Samuel, John and Robert. John had only one son, and we have no record that he married, though he lived the allotted age of man.

The Stetsons of Maine, as far as I have ascertained, are descendants of either Joseph, Benjamin, Thomas, or Samuel, and the following are our ancestors who came to Maine:—

Those from the Joseph Stetson branch of the family: William Stetson, who settled at Thomaston, in 1764; Benjamin Stetson, at Lincolnville, in 1770; Hezekiah Stetson, at Sumner, in 1780; Elisha Stetson, at Durham, in 1784; Abner Stetson, at Newcastle, in 1793; Josiah Stetson, at Lincolnville, in 1804; Simeon Stetson, at Hampden, in 1804.

From the Benjamin Stetson branch were: Nathaniel Stetson, at Warren, in 1793; Charles Stetson, at Freeport, about 1800.

From the Thomas Stetson branch were: Martin Stetson, at Norway, in 1805; Job H. Stetson, at Minot, in 1807; Thomas P. Stetson, at Bath, in 1813; Seth Stetson, at Brunswick, in 1828.

From the Samuel Stetson branch were: Joseph Stetson, at Camden, in 1815; Nathaniel Stetson, at Bath, in 1820.

At the present time, the descendants of these fifteen ancestors are grouped into what we call the Lincolnville, Bath, Lewiston, and Bangor branches.

In 1892 I published a little book containing a record of the descendants of Simeon Stetson, but have no complete record of the descendants of the other branches, though many of them have made a most creditable record in the business and political affairs of our state.

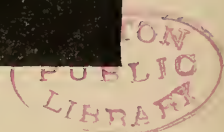
Hon. William W. Stetson, a descendant of Elisha Stetson, who settled at Durham, was for many years State Superintendent of Schools, and is a man of most pleasing address. He has been spoken of as a candidate for Governor, but unfortunately has now left the state to accept a most desirable position as State Superintendent of Schools in a Western state. His picture is published in the book containing the account of the second reunion of the Stetson Kindred held last year, and if you have the book you will notice that the good looks of the Stetsons have descended to him.

Mr. Arthur F. Stetson, a descendant of Job H. Stetson, who



BETSY KIDDER STETSON, WIFE OF SIMEON STETSON,

At the age of 80 years,



settled in Minot, now part of Auburn, is President of the Union Insurance Co. of Bangor, and has shown great business ability in the management of the affairs of this most successful Company.

Mr. Joseph F. Stetson, a descendant of Joseph Stetson, who settled at Camden, is President of the Camden National Bank, after having been for thirty-one years cashier of the bank. He has been Chairman of the Selectmen, and an officer in the United States Navy in 1864 and 1865. His father was a prominent man in Camden, the builder of seventy vessels and a member of the Legislature.

I might mention others at Lewiston, Bath, and Lincolnville, who have made honorable places for themselves in our state, but I will not weary you with their names. Suffice it to say, that those who bear your family name have done and are doing their share to maintain the honor of the name of Stetson, and to assist in the material growth of our good old state of Maine, which was formerly a part of the grand old Commonwealth of Massachusetts, binding us together in political as well as cousinly ties.

We are all proud of the name of Stetson, and you will pardon me if I speak for a few minutes of the descendants of Simeon Stetson, my grandfather, who stands at the head of the Bangor branch. If we honor and venerate our ancestors and speak of their noble lives it cannot but help us to be better men and women, and thereby become more useful members of the community in which we live. Therefore, any personal allusion to my grandfather, my father, or his brothers, will be taken in the sense that we delight to honor the memories of those who have fought a good fight, and their memories are ever green.

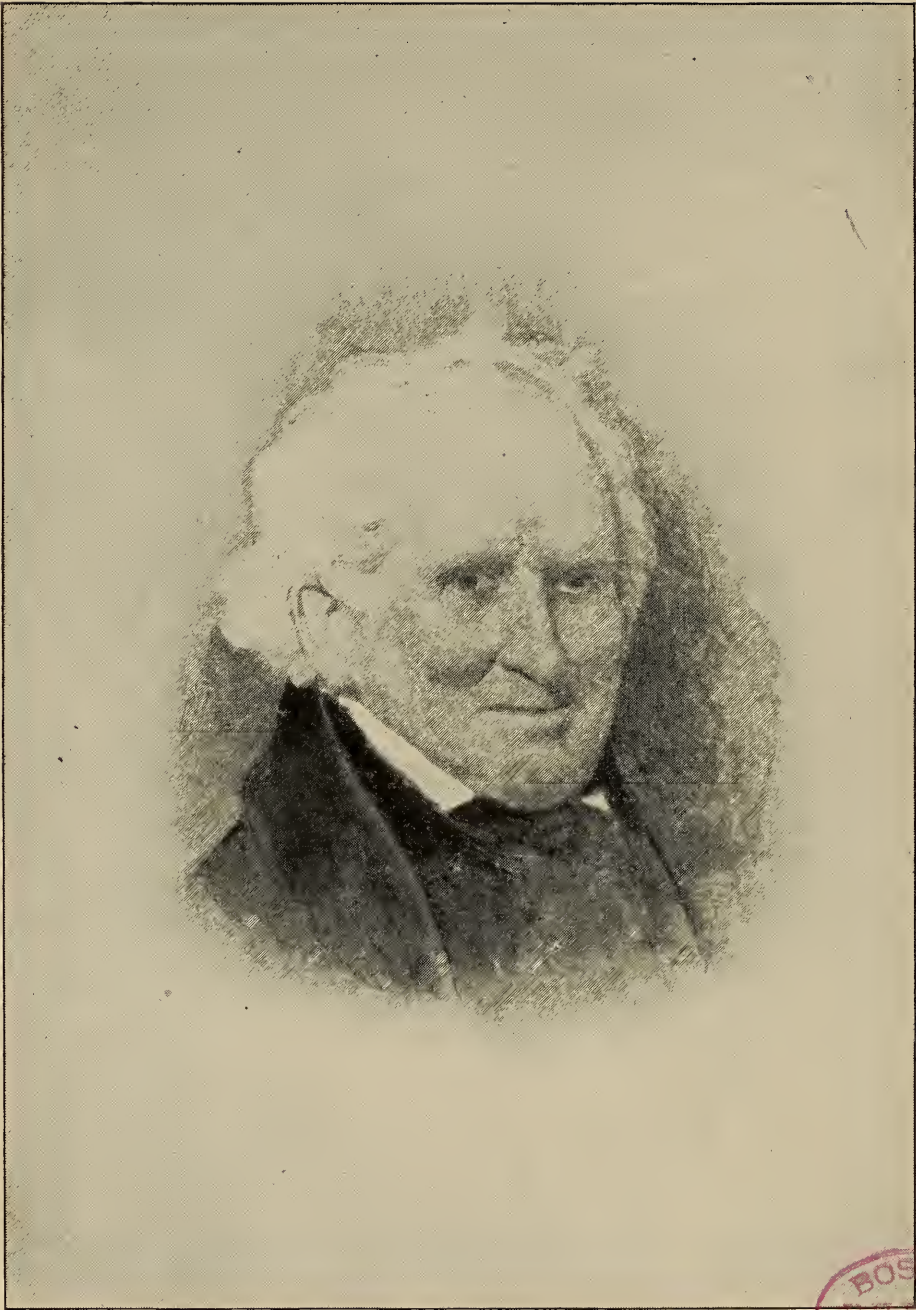
Simeon Stetson, my grandfather, moved to Hampden, Maine, from Washington, N. H., in 1804, at the request of his brother, Major Amasa Stetson, of Boston, who had purchased a township of land in Maine, near Hampden, which has since been incorporated into the town of Stetson. Hampden being the nearest important point to the township, was what caused my grandfather to settle there and to purchase fifty acres of land in 1804 and move his family thither. He kept a large general store, was interested in a saw mill, and built several vessels which were engaged in the West India trade, taking out pine boards and bringing back rum and molasses. This was before the time of the prohibition law in Maine, when rum was a staple

article of commerce, largely used by the old settlers, who knew a good thing when they found it.

Simeon was a man of strong will, great energy, and tireless industry. In politics he was a Republican of the Jeffersonian school, and very ardent in his political feelings. He was a friend of education, being one of the early and ever constant friends of Hampden Academy, and one of the trustees from its first organization until his death. He was strictly honest and conscientious, was liberal and broad in his religious opinions, but could not subscribe to the Calvinistic creeds which governed the churches of his vicinity, and although he never was a church member, was always willing to contribute his share for the support of the various denominations of his town, and was a church goer. At the time of his death he was the owner of a pew in each of the churches in the town. Simeon was always greatly interested in the municipal affairs of his town, and held the office of chairman of the board of Selectmen and of Town Clerk for over twenty years. He was a Representative to the General Court of Massachusetts, before the separation of Maine, was a member of the convention to frame a constitution for Maine upon her becoming an independent state, and was also a member of the Executive Council under Governor Lincoln.

Simeon's children were:—Thomas Penman, born February 1, 1797. Reuben Kidder, born October 8, 1798. Ann Kidder, born February 25, 1800. Charles, born November 2, 1801. George, born January 25, 1807. Isaiah, born February 6, 1812. Thomas Stetson, son of Simeon, married and settled at West Hampden and carried on a large farm. He left four boys, who have all made a name for themselves in the world. One of the boys, James, went to California in 1850, and at the time of his death was the owner of a large number of acres of land in different counties of California, and from him descended our California cousins, one of whom is a director of this association. All of the nephews of Thomas hold his memory in the highest esteem, and they all can recall many pleasant days spent during the summer season at their Uncle Thomas' house and farm in West Hampden.

Reuben, son of Simeon, early manifested a desire for a sailor's life, which he was permitted to gratify, and was engaged first as a seaman and then as mate and captain in the West India trade from



MAJOR AMASA STETSON,

Brother of Simeon Stetson.

[From a painting in the possession of Mrs. Charles Stetson.]



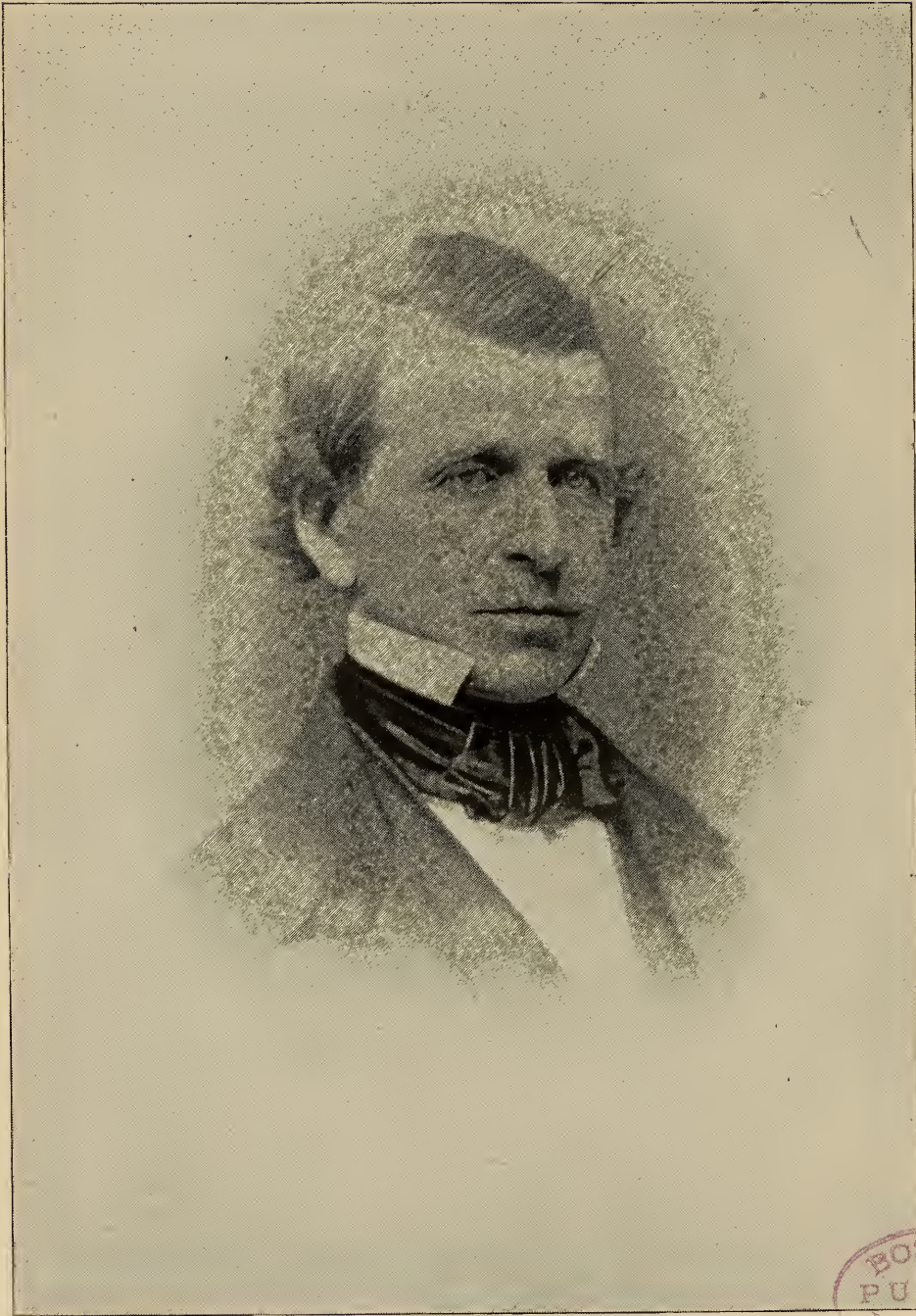
Hampden for many years. He subsequently went into trade at Hampden, and was first selectman for a number of years, being always appointed town agent, when there was any important business to be looked after. One of his sons grew to manhood, moved to Galesburg, Illinois, married, and is spreading the name of Stetson in that state.

Ann Kidder, the only daughter of Simeon, married John Crosby, son of Gen. John Crosby of Hampden. One of her sons moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and founded the great flour firm of Washburn, Crosby & Co. The other moved to Topeka, Kansas, and is at the head of the Crosby Milling Co., a large flour corporation. One of her daughters married Hon. L. A. Emery, the present Chief Justice of our Supreme Court of Maine.

Charles Stetson, son of Simeon, graduated from Yale in 1819 with honors, and became a lawyer. He practiced several years at Hampden, then moved to Bangor, as he foresaw that Bangor, being at the head of navigation, was destined to be a more important place than Hampden. During his practice at Hampden, besides being Town Clerk, he was overseer of the poor, assessor, and first selectman. After moving to Bangor, he rapidly came to the front and held many positions of trust and responsibility. He was Judge of the Municipal Court, Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court, member of the Common Council, a member of the Executive Council under Gov. John B. Dana, and a representative to Congress in 1849. He was a very large real estate owner in Bangor, director in the Merchants National Bank, Bangor Gas Light Co., and stockholder in many corporations. He died in 1883, at the advanced age of eighty-two years, and till nearly the time of his death attended personally to his large business interests. He was held in eminent respect by every one for his honesty and sturdy qualities. He left a large family of children, of whom one, after graduating from Yale, became a lawyer, held the office of County Attorney for many years, and at the time of his death was considered the brightest lawyer in Eastern Maine. Another son moved to St. John, N. B., entered the lumber business, and at the time of his death was at the head of the lumber firm of Stetson, Cutler & Co., of St. John, Boston, and New York, who probably do the largest lumber business of any firm in New England. Another son, graduated from Harvard, became a doctor, but is not practicing at the present time.

George Stetson, son of Simeon, after being in business for a few years at Hampden, moved to Bangor and formed a partnership with his brother Isaiah. They carried on a large wholesale and supplying business, besides being large lumber manufacturers, exporting largely to the West Indies in their own vessels and bringing back West India goods for their store. He was President of the First National Bank till the time of his death, one of the principal organizers of the Union Insurance Co. and the Bangor Mutual Fire Insurance Co., holding the office of President of both companies for many years. He served in the Legislature for two terms, and was Chairman of the Board of Commissioners to build the Bangor Water Works. In politics he was a strong Republican, and in religion he was an ardent Unitarian, and took a prominent part in the affairs of the church. His religious belief is well expressed in the following lines, which were found in his handwriting among his papers after his death. "The cultivation of our best qualities is the true worship of divinity." He died at the advanced age of eighty-four years, the last surviving member of a most worthy band of brothers. One of his sons, a graduate of Harvard, is now President of the First National Bank, Treasurer of the Bangor & Aroostook R. R. Co., director in various business corporations, and has been a member of the city government. Another son, graduated from Yale, is Treasurer of the University of Maine and of several business corporations, has been Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives in 1899, state Senator, member of two Governor's Staffs, and President of the Bangor Board of Trade.

Isaiah Stetson, son of Simeon, moved to Bangor and formed a business partnership with his brother George, and upon Isaiah fell the management of their timberlands and real estate. Their success in these lines was largely due to his ability as a business man. He was Alderman for several years from his ward, and served his city as Mayor for the years 1859, '60, '61 and '62, when he declined a reelection. His mayoralty covered the exciting period of the outbreak of the civil war, and his courage, firmness, sagacity, prudence and patriotism during those days will ever be remembered to his honor. In 1865 and 1866 he represented Bangor in the Legislature, where his ability and influence were fully recognized, and where his high character won the respect and esteem of all his associates. He



CHARLES STETSON,

At the age of 50 years.

left one son, who graduated from Yale, became a lawyer, moved to Cambridge, Massachusetts, and at the time of his death, this spring, was President of the Common Council, with very brilliant political prospects, which were cut off by his untimely death.

In conclusion, I am most pleased, on behalf of your Maine cousins, to express to you our appreciation of the efforts that have resulted in the formation of the association, called the "Stetson Kindred," and the preservation of the homestead of our common ancestor, Cornet Robert Stetson.

ISAIAH K. STETSON,
Bangor, Maine.

August 17, 1907.

Iron as the Stetsons Saw It.

It is rather strange that, while "Robert of Pembroke," the youngest son of the Cornet Robert Stetson was reckoned as "wild," and presumably a "spendthrift," cut off in his father's will with only the clothes which his father had worn; in the words of the testator, "with what I have formerly given him, I judge convenient for him," yet his descendants have started and carried on successfully the most important iron industries in the county and state.

Swank in his "History of Iron in all Ages," claims that the first furnace for the smelting of native iron ore, known in Plymouth County, was erected by Lambert Despard, in that part of Duxbury now known as Pembroke, in the year 1702.

Lambert Despard, a founder, came to Pembroke from Braintree, Massachusetts, where many of the most important men in the Massachusetts Colony, headed by John Winthrop, Jr., had been wrestling with the iron problem for nearly seventy-five years, the General Court renewing their Charter from time to time, when much money and stock were expended, and it seemed to be a case of "too many cooks" who spoiled this metallic "broth," when for a breach of contract, in 1711, the "grant" reverted to Boston.

Even earlier than this there was the same kind of embroilment at Lynn, when Henry Despaw and Henry Despaw, Jr., came to this

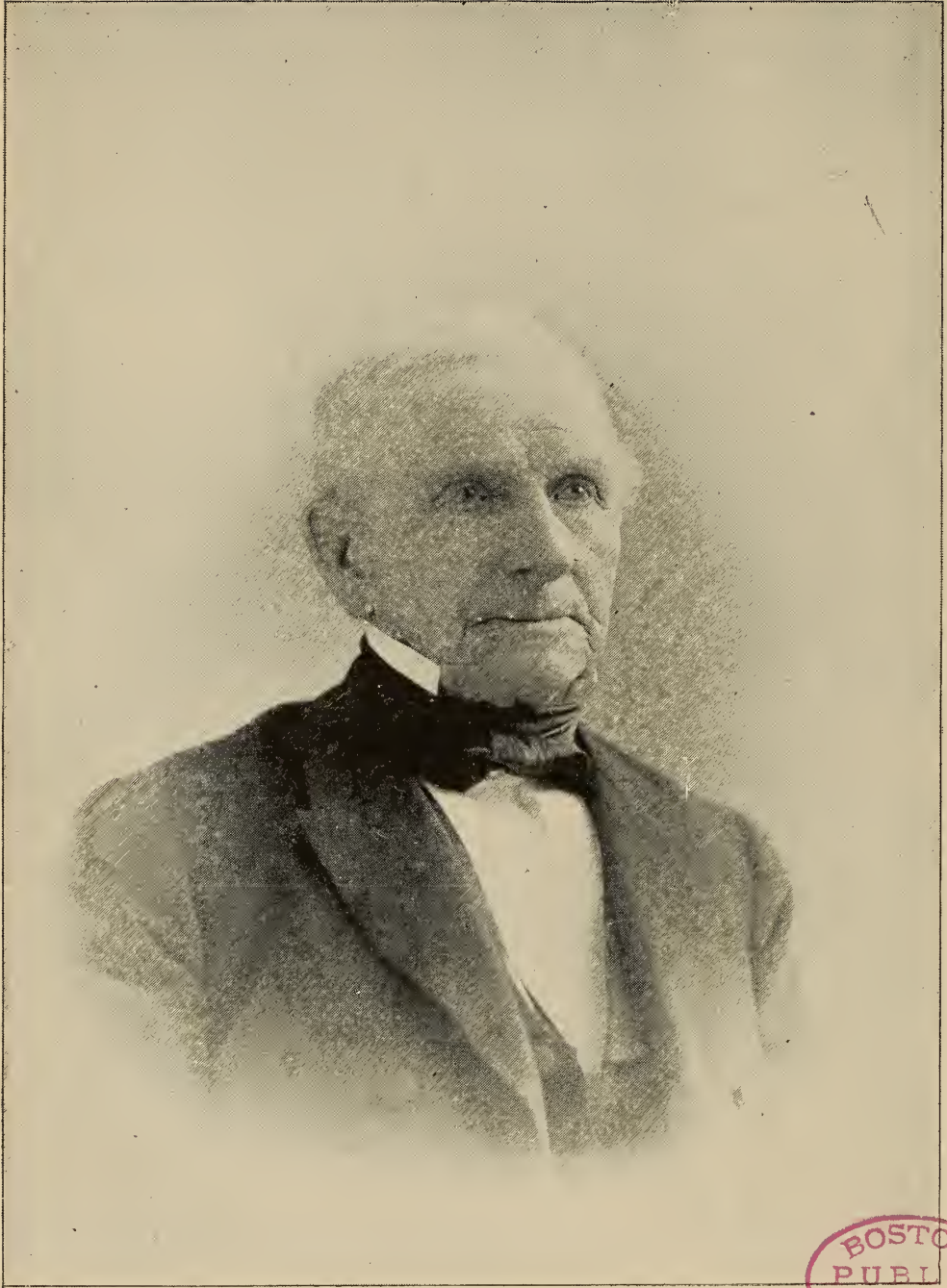
country as "founders," employed by a company to establish the iron industry.

Lambert Despard came to Pembroke from Braintree in 1702, when he bought of Jeremiah Memontague and Abigail, his wife, sole heir of the great Sachem Josias, alias Chickatawbut, late of Mattakusett, in the township of Duxbury, and her only brother Charles, alias Josias, late of Mattakusett aforesaid, son of the aforesaid Chickatawbut, deceased, a certain tract of land, 20A., at Mattakusett, Great Ponds. Then follows a description with bounds, where he was to erect iron works and mills from time to time with all privileges, free "Ingress, egress or regress in and over" our lands lying near or adjacent thereabouts to cart or fetch stone, clay, earth, "bar, cole or any other lumber from time to time forever." In a week or two he sells three-fourths of this to the Barkers, Francis, Robert, Samuel, Joshua and Josiah, Robert, Jr., and Michael Wanton, of Scituate. November 1, 1702, there came an agreement with these for a setting up a furnace for the founding and casting of iron-ware, the housings, dams, bellows, and all material suitable for the same, etc., paying Lambert Despard from time to time "£100," as he shall need it. Joshua Stetson (son of Thomas) and John Bryant were witnesses.

Various agreements and annulments of conditions follow with these various partners, till March the 1st, 1707-8, when Lambert Despard sells a certain tract of land on Mattakusett brook to Timothy Stetson (Robert Jr.'s second son,) who the same day sells it to Lambert Despard, Robert Stetson, John Holms and Isaac Stetson, all of Duxbury, and Gershom Stetson, of Scituate, with liberty to set up mills, etc.

January 24, 1709, Despard sells his share (one-fourth) to Joseph Mallinson, of Charlestown, also his mansion-house, ware-house, poultry-house, wharf and land adjacent, near the furnace, pot-house one-fourth of all these, Mill Dam and stream, ponds, tools, implements and all iron-ware, iron, "cole"-mines, moulds, and "acoultrements," etc., leaving the partners in full possession of the field. These ran the works for some twelve or more years, when the woods becoming exhausted the site was abandoned.

As one reads over this deed of two centuries past, with its enumeration of buildings, implements, and commodities necessary to all the activities involved, we seem to see it all.



GEORGE STETSON,

At the age of 82 years.

. . . "While on the forge's brow,
 The little flames still fitfully play through the sable mound,
 And fitfully you still may see the grim smiths ranking round,
 All clad in leathern panoply, their broad hands only bare;
 Some rest upon their sledges here some work the windlass there."

And yet should we visit now the scene of these early industries, the vision would be dispelled by the quiet woods, with its undergrowth of flower and fern, and beyond the waters of Furnace Pond sparkling in the sun.

Yet "our ancestors builded better than they knew," for from this early industry sprang, in later years, the most important iron works in the county, projected by descendants of Isaac Stetson, son of Robert the "Spendthrift."

The marriages of these iron workers, in most instances illustrated either the influence of "propinquity" or "Birds of a feather" proverb, for the wife of Isaac, who was a mystery when Barry published his Stetson Genealogy, was Elizabeth Pray of the Braintree Prays, iron men all, as well as the Haydens, into which family the Prays married.

Isaac's son John was very early engaged in the iron business, and after the death of his first wife, Abigail Crooker, of Pembroke, he married Deborah Tower, of Cumberland, Rhode Island, another case of "birds of a feather," for her father, Capt. Gideon Tower, was interested in iron.

Timothy, son of Robert 2d, one of the proprietors of that first forge, evidently left no descendants, but the descendants of John, the grandson, have been especially eminent in the iron business.

Of the family of his son Abisha, Abigail married Dyer Robinson, of Bridgewater, and their seven sons were all possessed of remarkable mechanical genius and ability. Besides important inventions, they held positions of trust as agents of different works.

Jonathan, the eldest son of Abisha, was extensively interested in factories at an early age. He built a furnace for iron at Carver, later owned a forge at Hanson, and while there, went to Franconia, New Hampshire, to superintend the building of a furnace, which he carried on for a year or more.

In 1810 he erected the first cotton factory in Plymouth County, at Marshfield. One was being built at Plymouth at the same time,

but the one at Marshfield started first. Abisha, his brother, and Jacob Perkins were associated with him.

Abisha also had charge of a similar factory at East Bridgewater, as well as a blast furnace, and cotton factory at Kingston, and a cotton factory in Hanson.

He was agent of the anchor-works, erected by Charles Josselyn, at King street, Hanover.

Nahum Stetson, son of Abisha 2d, and great-grandson of John, was, probably, more extensively and successfully engaged in the iron business than any previously named descendant. First, a boy with Lazell, Perkins & Co., then working his way to the top of the ladder, as partner, agent and treasurer.

In 1837 he was superintendent of the erection of iron works at Weymouth and Wareham. He was at one time in charge of three extensive iron works and distinguished as director of several institutions, besides holding many public offices.

The late Edward L. Perry, great-grandson of John, was at one time extensively engaged in the manufacture of tacks at Hanover, having for his partners Ezra Phillips and Martin W. Stetson, a descendant of Benjamin, the Cornet's second son, so affiliation with iron was not wholly confined to Robert 2d's descendants.

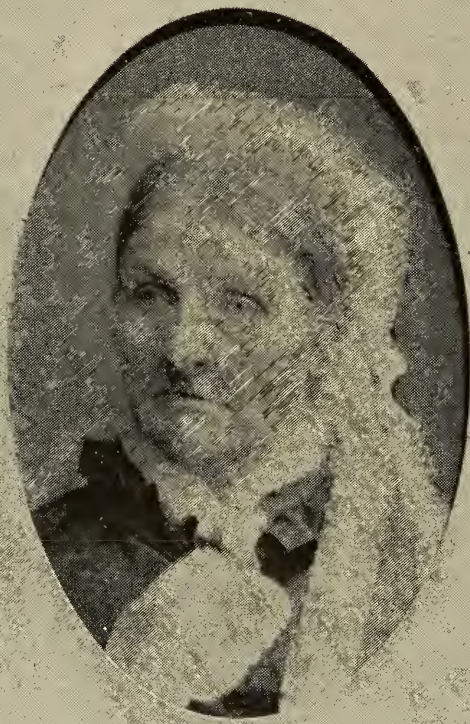
Nehemiah Stetson, grandson of Joseph 1st, married Sarah Despard in 1718, but the record of descendants is meagre, so if the profession of Lambert Despard was handed down I know not. Are there any of these present?

I have only tried to name some of those prominent in this early industry, but doubtless there are many more to whom praise is due, but this paper is already too long to name them.

Do not for one moment, dear kindred, imagine that every one prominent in the working of iron was a descendant of our Cornet, for there lived in Pembroke Second Precinct, one Lemuel Bonney, who died in 1803, and his tombstone, in Fern Hill Cemetery, tells us "He was one of the greatest iron founders in America." My attention has been called to another side of this industry.

Inventions and legal questions have had an important influence on the iron industry as on all other works involving capital.

The present officers of our association are contributing indirectly but to an extent beyond exact calculation to the iron arts. Our



ANN KIDDER STETSON,

At the age of 75 years.

Ann Kidder married John Crosby, son of Gen. John Crosby of Hampden, December 24, 1823, and during her life resided at Hampden, near the old family mansion. Her husband died in October, 1863, and she followed him September 10, 1879, after being confined for a number of years to her rolling chair and bed, caused by an incurable lameness in one of her knees. Being the only sister, her brothers were much attached to her and were constantly giving her reminders of their love. Her children were: Charles S., John, Elizabeth K., Henry, Daniel, Simeon, Annie, Sarah D., and Maria.



honored President, Francis Lynde Stetson, was the organizer, and has ever since been the head counsel for, the United States Steel Corporation, controlling immensely great manufactories to supply the world; and head counsel on one side or the other in a score of actions forming pivotal points in less important interests.

Thomas Drew Stetson, one of our Directors, was the patent solicitor of George H. Corliss, of Providence, of Corliss Engine fame; George H. Babcock and Stephen Wilcox, of Safety Steam Boiler fame; the Quintard Iron Works, of New York, whose series of mammoth centrifugal pumps at Chicago, working day and night, elevate and send a portion of the Great Lakes down the Illinois Canal and thus to the ocean through the Mississippi. The Passaic Iron Works, of Paterson, who put up miles of elevated railroad at New York City, and the Washington Bridge across the Harlem, and the Rogers Locomotive Works, of the same thriving New Jersey town, whose whistles wake the echoes of the Andes, all with never a failure in their work or in their patents at home or abroad.

We come of a sturdy race, whatever the antecedents of the Cornet, whether of gentle birth or not, the life of a pioneer is always one of toil. Ruskin tells us "it is no man's business whether he has genius or not, work he must whatever he is. For the natural and unforced results of such work, will always be the thing God meant him to do."

We should love and reverence all arts equally.

The little industry starting on the shore of Furnace Pond two hundred years ago is still going on.

The work is only just beginning. Its monument is hardly above the foundation.

"The surging sea of human life,
Forever onward rolls,
And bears to the eternal shore,
Its daily freight of souls."

SUSEY A. SMITH.

August 17, 1907.

Information Wanted.

Can any one supply information as follows:—

The surname of Margaret ———, who married James Stetson. No. 7, page 51, Barry's Stetson Record Book. A California descendant desires this information.

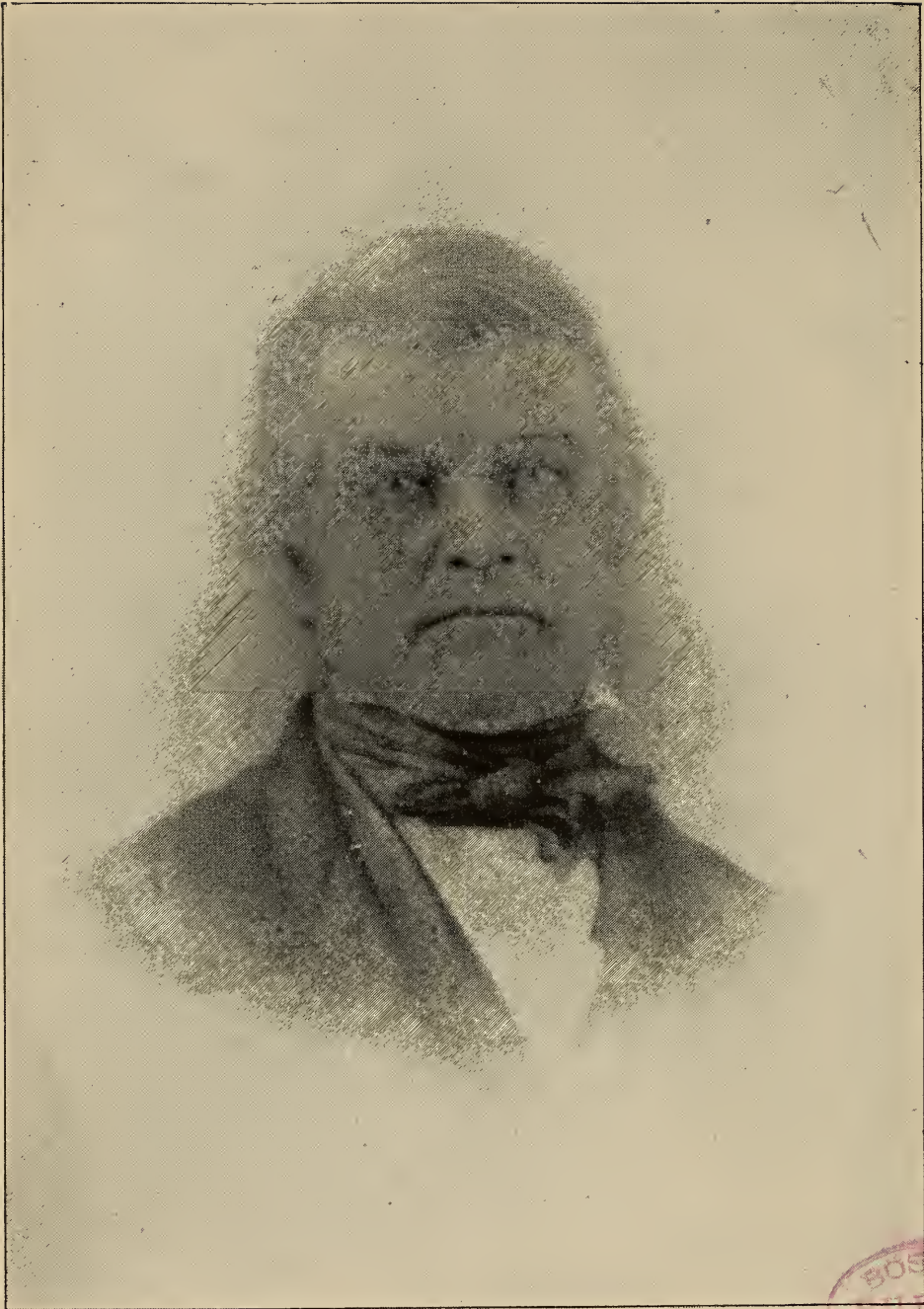
The address of Frederic Steele Stetson, who lived for a considerable time in and about Providence, Rhode Island. His father's name was Alexander H. Stetson, and his grandfather's name Isaac Stetson. His father's first wife was the daughter of John Parks, of Providence. His second wife he separated from, I have not her name. A sister desires to find her brother.

Knowledge of Abigail Stetson, of Salem, Massachusetts, who was born somewhere near the year 1716. She married John Sampson; they had two sons—Daniel, born in 1736, and Solomon, born in 1738. A New Hampshire descendant is unable to trace her line back of Abigail, but desires so to do.

Knowledge of one Gideon Stetson, born in Bristol, Lincoln County, Maine, August 20, 1787. He was one of seven children, John, Joseph, Charles, etc. A descendant, living in Maine, desires to know the name of the father of Gideon.

One who would like to join the Kindred, has placed before the Secretary these facts, in the hopes that someone can assist in tracing the line back. He says, "Benjamin Stetson, whose wife was Mary Johnson, settled in the town of Sangerfield, Oneida County, New York, in 1800, having come, it is said, from Bennington, Vermont. Nothing earlier than this is known to me of my ancestry. Benjamin had nine children, as follows: Benjamin Jr., Jesse, Joel, Amy, Hannah, Clara, Sally, Ezra and Susan. Joel, above named, was my grandfather. His children were Triphena, Lucy, Francis (my father,) Melissa, Orlando, Mary, Emily, Amanda, Martin and Albert." Can any one give light as to Benjamin's parents?





REUBEN KIDDER STETSON,

At the age of 53 years.



THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS
OF THE CORPORATION
Stetson Kindred of America, Inc.

OFFICERS, 1907-8.

OFFICERS — President, Francis Lynde Stetson, New York City, N. Y.; Vice-President, Robert Stetson Gorham, Newton, Mass.; Secretary and Treasurer, George William Stetson, Medford, Mass.

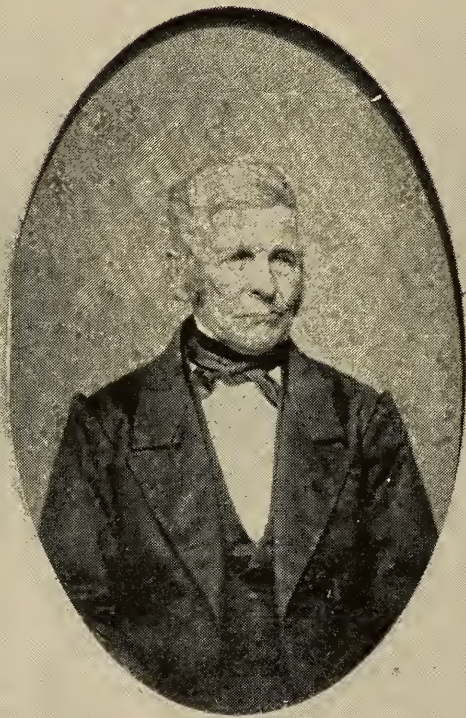
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE — George W. Stetson, Medford, Mass.; Warren B. Stetson, Middleboro, Mass.; Miss Susey A. Smith, Kingston, Mass.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS — The above officers and Daniel E. Damon, Plymouth, Mass.; Eugene E. Stetson, Norwell, Mass.; James B. Stetson, San Francisco, Cal.; Thomas Drew Stetson, New York, N. Y.; W. W. Stetson, Augusta, Me.; John B. Stetson, Ashbourne, Pa.

MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATION.

Francis L. Stetson	New York, N. Y.
Robert S. Gorham	Newton, Mass.
George W. Stetson	Medford, Mass.
Warren B. Stetson	Middleboro, Mass.
Miss Susey A. Smith	Kingston, Mass.
Daniel E. Damon	Plymouth, Mass.
Eugene E. Stetson	Norwell, Mass.
James B. Stetson	San Francisco, Cal.
William W. Stetson	Auburn, Me.
Thomas D. Stetson	New York, N. Y.
John B. Stetson	Ashbourne, Pa.
Cyrus H. Stetson	Bridgewater, Mass.
Mrs. Augusta B. Cheney	Kingston, Mass.
Mrs. C. J. Turner	North Pembroke, Mass.

Loretta F. Stetson	South Weymouth, Mass.
Miss Helen Cushman	Brockton, Mass.
Miss Ethel F. Stetson	Whitman, Mass.
F. W. Stetson	Boston, Mass.
Mrs. Ellen B. Dyer	Hanover, Mass.
Mrs. J. Anderson Bennett	Quincy, Mass.
Miss Harriet S. Stetson	Bridgewater, Mass.
America E. Stetson	Whitman, Mass.
James H. Stetson	Quincy, Mass.
George R. Stetson	New Bedford, Mass.
James S. Stetson	Bridgewater, Mass.
Nelson M. Stetson	Duxbury, Mass.
Clara Sigsby Stetson	Duxbury, Mass.
Harriet J. Ford	Duxbury, Mass.
C. F. Stetson	Duxbury, Mass.
Frank D. Stetson	East Whitman, Mass.
Arthur W. Stetson	Quincy, Mass.
F. D. Stetson	New Bedford, Mass.
Winslow Stetson	Boston, Mass.
Miss Alice Cushman	Brockton, Mass.
John N. S. Stetson	Brookline, Mass.
George W. Stetson	Middleboro, Mass.
Amos W. S. Anderson	Quincy, Mass.
Miss Esther S. Barry	Newtonville, Mass.
Martin Thayer	Onset, Mass.
Forest Leslie Stetson	Greenfield, Mass.
Robert C. Stetson	Stockbridge, Mass.
Israel Hatch	North Marshfield, Mass.
W. Graydon Stetson	Brookline, Mass.
Mrs. Mary Clarke Stirrett	New Bedford, Mass.
Chester S. Stirrett	New Bedford, Mass.
Charlotte M. A. C. Spaulding	New Bedford, Mass.
Elsie A. Pratt	Rockland, Mass.
Ethel I. Stetson	Norwell, Mass.
Fannie S. W. Bates	Hanover, Mass.
Laura G. Pierce	Quincy, Mass.
Caroline M. Haggett	Natick, Mass.
Thomas C. Sampson	Norwell, Mass.
Sarah L. Sampson	Norwell, Mass.
George C. Turner	Norwell, Mass.
Joshua S. Gray	Rockland, Mass.
Mrs. Marion S. Jones	Brattleboro, Vt.
Mrs. Marion W. Y. McIntire	Denver, Col.
A. F. Stetson	Bangor, Me.
Edward Stetson	Bangor, Me.



THOMAS PENNEMAN STETSON,

At the age of 65 years.

John E. Stetson	South Royalston, Vt.
George H. Stetson	New York, N. Y.
Mrs. Dora W. Miller	Williamsport, Pa.
Joseph F. Stetson	Camden, Me.
John Smedley Stetson	New York, N. Y.
Frederic T. Stetson	New York, N. Y.
Arthur Dana Stetson	Brooklyn, N. Y.
George R. Stetson	Palmyra, N. Y.
Mary Stetson Cluett	Troy, N. Y.
George B. Cluett, 2d	Troy, N. Y.
Hiram W. Stetson	Burlington, Vt.
Herbert Randall	Hartford, Conn.
Mrs. Adaline B. Wheeler	Camden, Me.
Ada M. Wheeler	Camden, Me.
William M. Pierson	Alton, Ill.
Joshua A. Stetson	Providence, R. I.
Charles W. Stetson	Lonsdale, Pa.
Helen Stetson Larkin	Plattsburgh, N. Y.
Mrs. George E. Crane	Chicago, Ill.
Martin V. B. Stetson	Gloversville, N. Y.
Abby Leach	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Isaiah K. Stetson	Bangor, Me.
Caroline L. Baker	Plattsburgh, N. Y.
Anna Leach	Troy, N. Y.
Henry H. Josselyn	Hanover, Mass.
Benjamin L. Stetson	South Hanover, Mass.
Sarah C. Stetson Bates	South Hanover, Mass.
Lewis Reed	Rockland, Mass.
Ernest C. Stetson	Brockton, Mass.
Arthur H. Dyer	Norwell, Mass.
Horace T. Fogg	Norwell, Mass.
Lucy J. Stockbridge	South Hanover, Mass.
Edith W. Curtis	South Hanover, Mass.
Marcia P. Bates	Bridgewater, Mass.
Emma P. Pierce	East Milton, Mass.
Arthur Young	Winthrop, Mass.
Quincy Reed	Whitman, Mass.
Dorothy Stetson	Waban, Mass.
John A. Stetson	Brookline, Mass.
Nellie M. Sparrell	Everett, Mass.
Jedediah Dwelley	North Hanover, Mass.
Edith Leach	Northampton, Mass.
Mrs. N. M. Williams	Brockton, Mass.
Reuben C. Donnell	Hanover, Mass.
Cushing Hatch	Norwell, Mass.

Stella Jacobs Brown	Plymouth, Mass.
Rosabel S. Dunham	Bridgewater, Mass.
Ella Stetson Thayer	Brookline, Mass.
Fred B. Clapp	Somerville, Mass.
Mrs. George C. Morrow	Brockton, Mass.
Mrs. Ella J. Torrey	Rockland, Mass.
Edwin E. Jacobs	Assinippi, Mass.
Susan R. Clapp	Somerville, Mass.
Amos A. Phelps	Rockland, Mass.
Mrs. Sarah E. Allen	Hanover, Mass.
Frank L. Stetson	Medford, Mass.
William F. Stetson	Roxbury, Mass.
Miss Francis A. Plimpton	144 Warren Ave., Boston, Mass.
T. Frank Stetson	Hanover, Mass.
Miss Lucy J. Gurney	Brockton, Mass.
Clinton J. Stetson	Rochester, N. Y.
Mrs. Hannah H. Churchill	East Whitman, Mass.
Mrs. Abby W. S. Thomas	Athol, Mass.
Mrs. Julia C. Stetson	Abington, Mass.
Lincoln Stetson	Randolph, Mass.
Miss Sarah A. Stetson	Nashua, N. H.
Mrs. Mary J. Corthell	Norwell, Mass.
Miss Alma P. Bates	South Hanover, Mass.
Mrs. Abbie M. S. McDonald	South Hanover, Mass.
Miss Maria F. Stetson	Hanover, Mass.
Mrs. Emily J. Gurney	Brockton, Mass.
Mrs. Amelia C. Howland	Hanover, Mass.
Mrs. Sarah E. S. Langley	Montello, Mass.
Rev. Willis B. Holcombe	Plymouth, Mass.
Mrs. Emma F. S. Littlefield	Avon, Mass.
Mrs. Charlotte E. S. Roby	Norwood, Mass.
Mrs. Mary L. S. Dodge	New Dorchester, Mass.
Almon B. Stetson	Needham, Mass.
Bernard Damon	Hanover Center, Mass.
Mrs. Mary J. Poole	West Hanover, Mass.
Mrs. Edith L. Haynes	East Whitman, Mass.
Mrs. George R. Marshall	East Whitman, Mass.
George F. Stetson	Norwood, Mass.
Charles W. Stetson	Campello, Mass.
Rector D. Stetson	Hanover, Mass.
George C. Stetson	South Hanover, Mass.
Benjamin F. Stetson	Elizabethtown, N. Y.
David S. Stetson	Philadelphia, Pa.
William M. Stetson	Albany, N. Y.
Wallis R. Corbin	South Hanover, Mass.

Mrs. Georgia D. Marden	Waltham, Mass.
Thomas Stetson	Rochester, N. H.
Edwin B. Cushman	Tonapah, Nev.
Mary A. Neale (Mrs. George F.)	Butler, Pa.
Fred H. Briggs	Boston, Mass.
Benjamin L. Stetson	Rochester, N. Y.
Will H. Stetson	New York, N. Y.
Mrs. Eliza R. Le Porte	Jersey City, N. J.
Louise M. Stetson	Franklin, N. H.
Joel D. Stetson	Fairhaven, Mass.
Alice Kent Neale	Butler, Pa.
Rebecca C. B. Liffler (Mrs. Charles, Jr.)	Roxbury, Mass.
Lawrence I. Neale	New York, N. Y.
Mrs. Frank W. Dana	Everett, Mass.
Mrs. Susan M. Stetson	Randolph, Mass.
Nahum Stetson	109 East 14th St., New York, N. Y.

MEMBERS DECEASED.

John B. Stetson	Philadelphia, Pa.
William Stetson	Brockton, Mass.
John G. Stetson	Boston, Mass.

The image features a line drawing of a Stetson hat, specifically a bowler or derby style. The hat has a rounded crown and a wide, slightly upturned brim. A decorative band with a textured, possibly leather or cord, pattern is visible around the base of the crown. The word "Stetson" is printed in a bold, serif font across the center of the crown. The hat is framed by ornate, symmetrical scrollwork on both sides and at the bottom, creating a decorative border around the central text and the hat itself.

Stetson

The name "Stetson" in a hat is an insurance policy for correct style, beauty, quality and wear. The Stetson always performs its whole duty and makes a friend of the man who wears it.

Every Stetson bears the Stetson Name

BOOKLET No. 3

Stetson Kindred of America

INC.

—
PRICE 50 CENTS
—

**COMPILED BY THE
SECRETARY**

FORM OF BEQUEST

I give and bequeath to the STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA, INC. in the city of Boston, Massachusetts the sum ofdollars for the general use and purposes of said Corporation.

(Signed).....



Truly yours
Francis Wyndel Stetson

PRESIDENT STETSON
New York City

BOOKLET NO. 3

STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA INC.

Comprising the Papers read at the Reunions of 1910 and 1911.

List of Vessells built by the Stetsons.

The Records of the Reunion of 1911.

Obituary and cut of the oldest member of the Corporation.

AND

Questions taken from Barry's Records of the
Stetson Family.

PRICE 50 CENTS

Compiled by the Secretary

RECORD OF ANNUAL MEETING 1911.

SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING AND REUNION OF THE CORPORATION AT THE SHRINE, NORWELL, MASS. AUGUST 19, 1911.

Over a hundred and a half members of the Stetson Kindred convened at and about the buildings on the place and held social communion with each other. Dinner was served by Caterer Damon of Marshfield Hills to 84 persons, the remainder eating lunch beneath the spreading apple trees.

Following the repast, officers were elected as follows:

President, Francis L. Stetson, New York, N. Y.

Vice-President, John B. Stetson, Philadelphia, Pa.

Sec'y-Treas., George W. Stetson, Medford, Mass.

Executive Committee, George W. Stetson, Nelson M. Stetson
Miss S. A. Smith.

Directors, The above and Miss E. S. Barry, D. E. Damon, T. D. Stetson, Dr. F. W. Stetson, E. E. Stetson, I. K. Stetson, Bangor, Me.

Dr. W. L. Phillips of New Haven made the principal address, and Rev. E. A. Thomas of Marshfield and J. E. Stetson of Springfield, Vt. and Daniel A. Stetson of Paoli, Pa. made a few interesting remarks. A paper by Nelson M. Stetson, on Capt. Benj. Stetson and his descendants, with a few pages from an old Stetson account book opened in 1739 and used for over one hundred years on a part of Cornet's old farm, was read by Miss E. S. Barry and one by G. W. Stetson on The Stetsons in the Ship Building Industry, was read by Miss C. D. Aborn of Medford. On motion of Miss Smith a vote of thanks were tendered to both writers of the papers and the readers.

The session broke up with the singing of America by the entire company.

G. W. STETSON, Sec'y.

**JOSHUA A. STETSON, DOCTOR-CLERGYMAN,
DEAD IN 93rd YEAR.**

**BORN IN BOSTON, BECAME FREE BAPTIST PASTOR, THEN TOOK
UP MEDICAL PRACTICE.---ALMONER OF SOLDIERS' FUNDS
IN TAUNTON DURING CIVIL WAR.**

Rev. Joshua A. Stetson, clergyman and physician, died in his home, 35 Hollis Street, this city, this morning, following a brief illness.

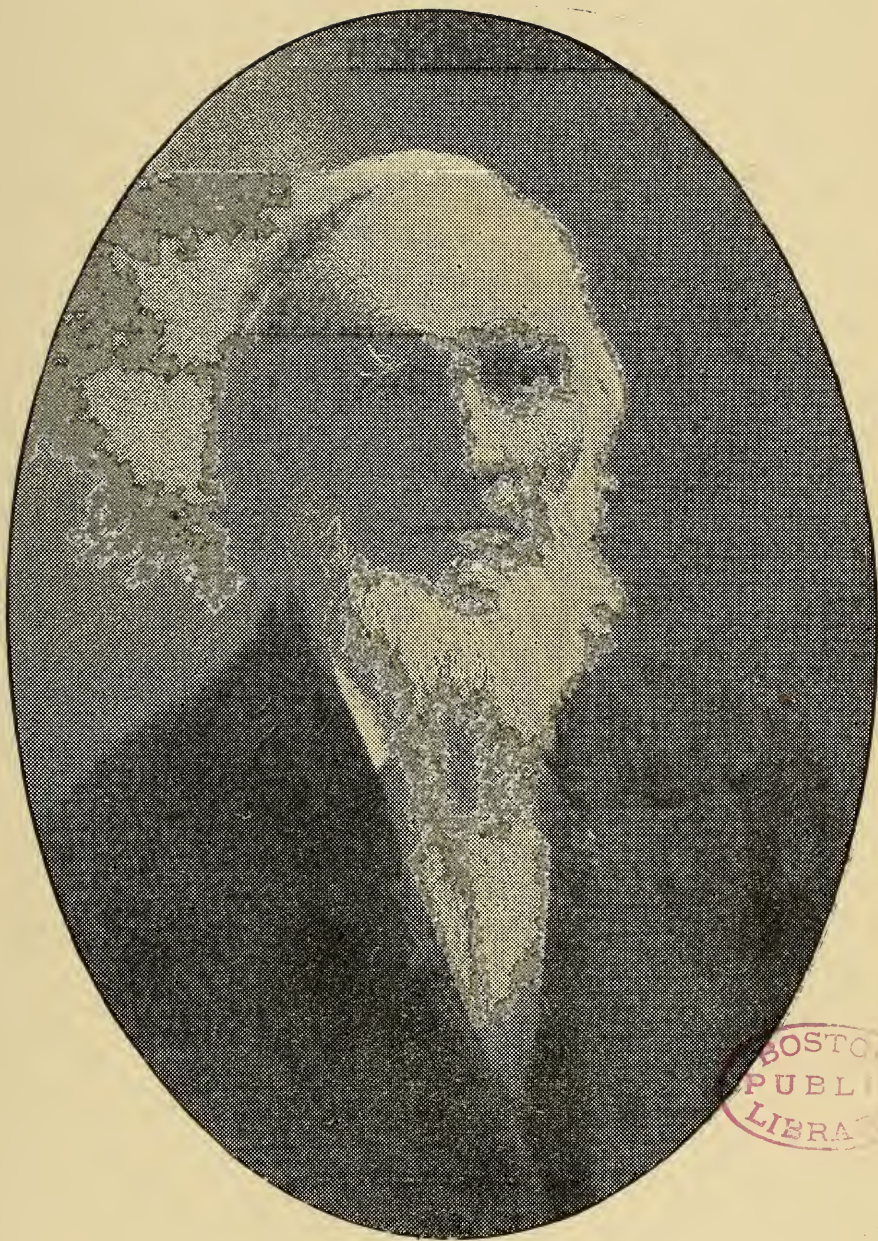
Dr. Stetson was in his 93rd year. He was born April 1, 1819 in Boston, the son of Charles and Maris Coolidge (Learned) Stetson. He attended school in Massachusetts and New Hampshire entering the ministry at an early age. Ordained as a Free Baptist clergyman he occupied pulpits in different sections of New England. During the Civil War he was in Taunton, and as City Missionary also acted as almoner of the funds disbursed by the city for the benefit of the families of soldiers left destitute by the call to arms.

During his ministry he became interested in the study of medicine in the interest of his wife, who was an invalid. For the past 42 years he had practiced that profession, and also had engaged in the manufacture of proprietary medicines, relinquishing his activities along these lines about two years ago.

He was married in 1842 to Rebecca L. Steere, daughter of the late Samuel Steere of Gloucester. He is survived by one son, Charles Walter Stetson, artist, now in Rome, Italy, (since deceased) two daughters, Mrs. Mary J. Gilmore and Mrs. Caroline M. Lindsey, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The Burial was at Acote's Hill, Chepachet.

The above was taken from a leading Providence, R. I. paper last May.



REV. JOSHUA A. STETSON, M. D.

Deceased in his 92nd year

Oldest member of the Corporation.



MISS SUSAN A. SMITH

Kingston

A Director and writer of the following paper.

Like Virgil of old, "I sing of Arms."

MASSACHUSETTS STETSONS IN THE REVOLUTION.

I little thought when I suggested two years ago to our most energetic and persevering Secretary, that **SOMEONE, SOMETIME** write a paper on Revolutionary Stetsons, that this task would be thrust upon me, and much less did I think---although we know it is a loyal "Clan"---they were such fighters against British oppression. A preliminary glance into "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolution," showed over twelve pages of the name. The major part of course were "privates" for unlike Artemas Ward's Regiment they couldn't all be Colonels, and privates were just as loyal and served their country with as much zeal, and deserve more consideration than officers.

We read that in King Phillip's war our common ancestor the veteran "Cornet" Robert Stetson, was constantly on horseback, going from post to post, either on voluntary excursions or to encourage the Garrison at home or to guide the Council of War, of which he was a member many years, and in 1667 when the war with Phillip began he was appointed by the Colony, to visit the Sachem and remonstrate in behalf of the Country but he did not succeed in getting him to "keep the peace."

This then was the inheritance of our fighting Stetsons. No wonder there were over twelve pages of "Soldiers and Sailors."

I have heard that some people wish to pick all the fruit from the genealogical tree for themselves alone, but in our case it would seem as if there was Revolutionary fruit on the tree for each one to get a bite at least.

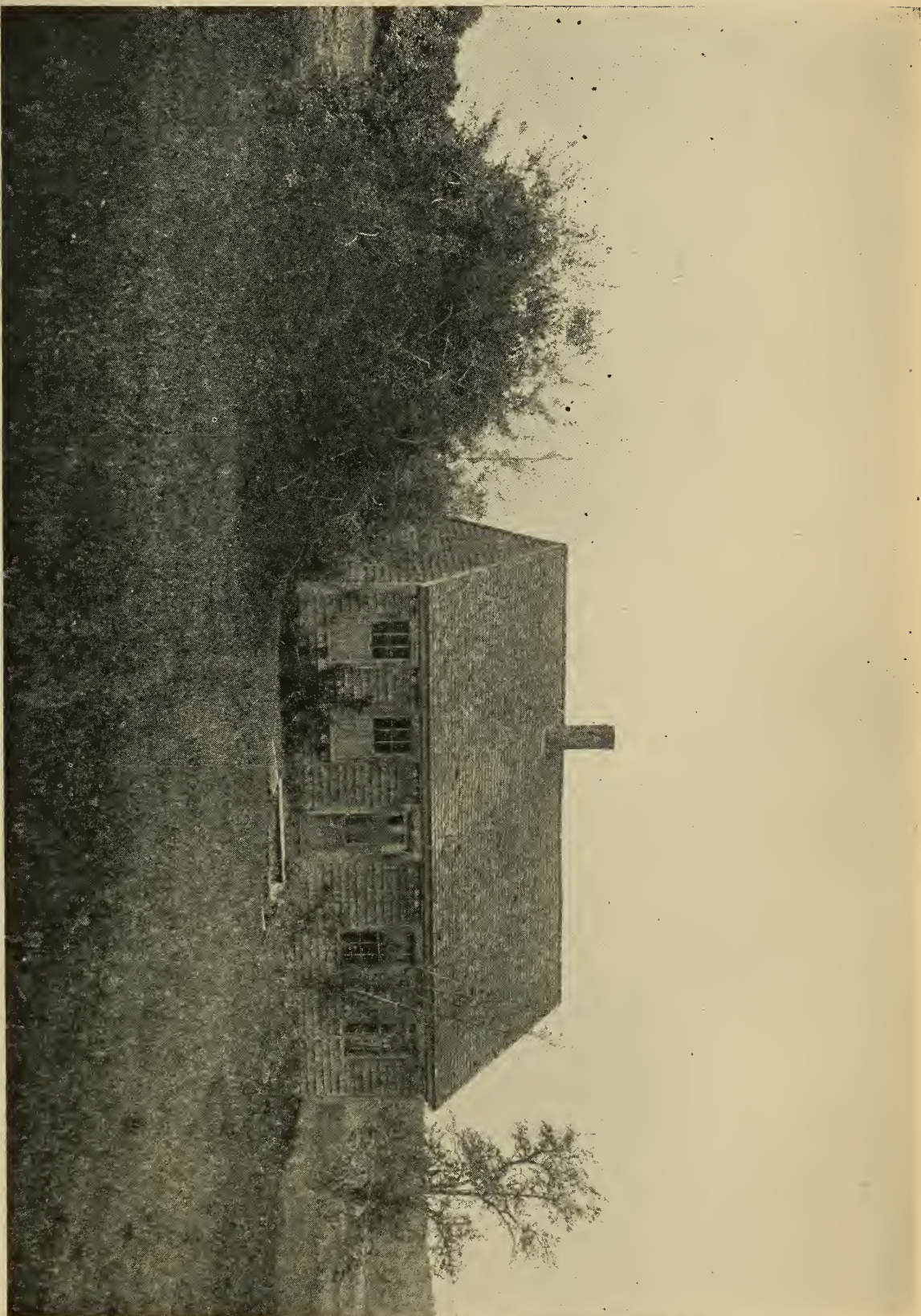
From the earliest settlement of the Colonies of New England the people questioned the right of England to Legislate for the people this side of the water, but the Culmination of these added wrongs occurred when the famous Stamp Act of 1765 was passed.

Then general indignation prevailed, bells were muffled and rang a funeral peal. The act itself was hawked about the streets with a Death's head affixed and styled "The Folly of England and the Ruin of America." The new Act of 1768 imposing duties on various articles of necessity caused an even greater ferment which seethed and boiled till September 1774 a Convention was called and delegates from every town in Plymouth County were present. This was held in Plympton and by adjournment was held at the Court House in Plymouth September 27.

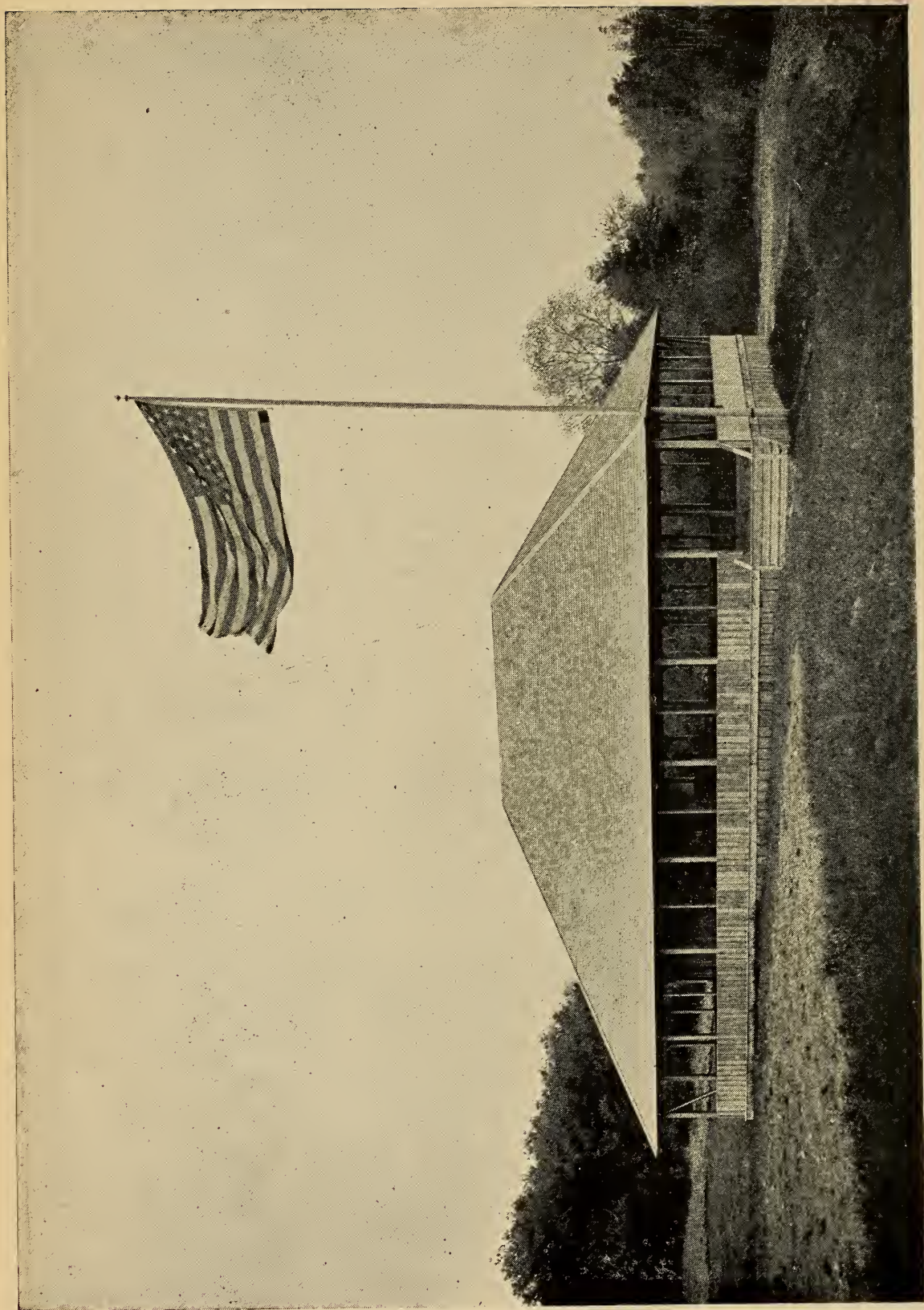
Every nation has its heroic age, ours began when the first settlers located here and were battling with so many ODDS; climate, the "Rock-bound-coast," Indians, Etc., and then the gradually tightening bond of vassalage with Great Britian which was severed by the Revolution, when the thirteen Confederated Colonies ratified a Federal Constitution and laid the foundation of our Republic.

John Fiske says in *Old Virginia and her Neighbors*, "The old fashioned New England town meeting is the best training-school in existence." "It's educational value is far higher than the newspaper, which in spite of its many merits as a diffuser of information, is very apt to do its best to bemuddle and sophisticate plain facts. The period when town-meetings were most important from the wide scope of their transactions, was the stormy discussion that ushered in our Revolutionary War. In those days great principles of government were discussed with a wealth of knowledge and stated with masterly skill in town meeting" and it is from perusing these town records, that we learn more of the spirit of the times and of the people than in any other way. Perhaps not always did the worthy scribe use the most approved system of spelling; it was often "phonetic" and erratic, but all must agree that whoever framed the various resolutions and petitions, knew what they wished to say, and how to express themselves.

At a Town Meeting held in Pembroke January 10, 1774, The Committee of Correspondence "Lade before the Town a Letter which had been offered upon the Committee of Several Towns in the Province to know their minds at this very critical and alarming



The Old House on the Property of the Corporation.



The Pavilion on the Corporation Property.

juncture also the Votes and Proceedings of the town of Boston thereon." Abel Stetson, the town taking the same under Consideration, thought proper to Choose a Committee, which was done consisting of eight men, who later reported their approval of the resolves at the town meeting in Boston, which were to prevent the landing and vending of tea sent by the East India Company, subject---by act of Parliament to a "Duty for the Detestable Purpose of Raising a Revenue in America" &c. &c. These Pembroke worthies also voted that they "much applaud The Department of the Gentlemen of the Southern Colonies to whom East India Companies were consigned, and that they have done themselves the honor to resign their appointments out of Regard to the Interests of their Country, while we DETEST that of the Tea Consignees in this Government for their obstanately Refusing to Comply with their reasonable request of their Fellow Citizens and Countrymen."

Then follows a resolve in the strongest terms, of their desire to defend their "Just Rights and Privileges" and an order that a Copy of these proceedings be sent to Boston.

Abel Stetson, who set this ball in motion was son of Joseph and Abigail (Hatch) Stetson and did not live long after this, but his son Abel born August 7, 1755 began his service in October 1775 and served continuously for two years. He has left descendants, although Barry does not carry out the line.

Joseph Stetson was on the Committee of Correspondence and Dea. Jeremiah Stetson son of Seth and Lucy (Bates) Stetson often took part in the town's proceedings on Committee of Correspondence and Safety. He lived in what is now Hanson and has left numerous descendants.

To quote John Fiske again, he says Gilbert and Raleigh demanded and Elizabeth granted in principle first what Patrick Henry and Samuel Adams demanded and George III REFUSED to concede with the result that the Colonists dwelt upon their wrongs, and spent much time in preparation for what would happen when the "last straw" was laid upon the over-burdened back of their Camel whose back broke under it April 19th 1775. The "Alarm" was sounded forth for the "Minute" Men, to which thirty Stetsons

responded, who had not sprung full-armed, like "Minerva," but much time had been spent previously by these "Minute-Men" and they were waiting for just this call.

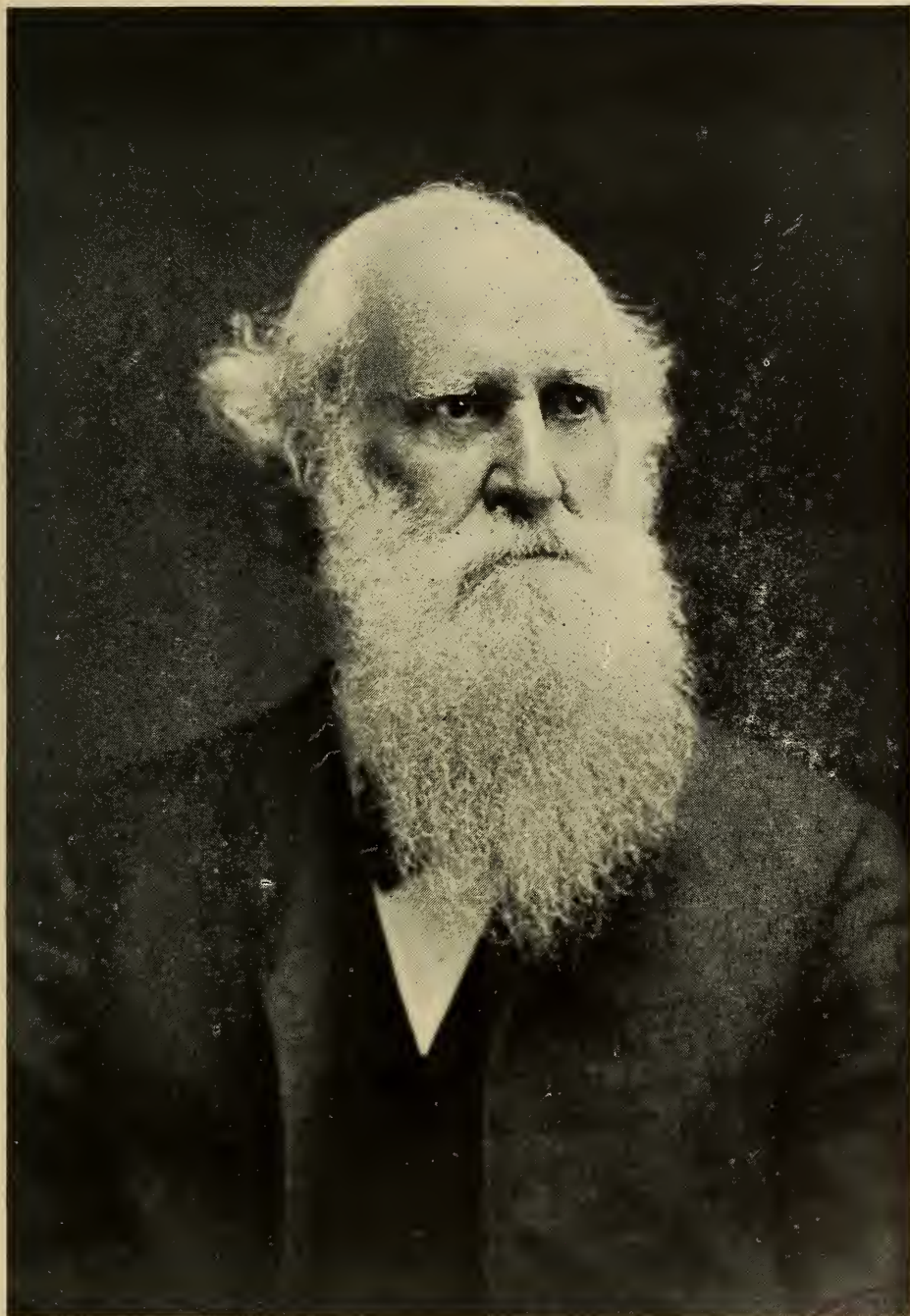
In a series of letters written by John Andrews, a prosperous merchant with a good deal at stake, to his brother-in-law in Philadelphia, we get a better idea of the condition of affairs. These letters are quoted at length in Miss Crawford's charming book "*Old Boston Days and Ways*." October 5, 1774 he writes, "This day a deputation of twelve came to town with a very spirited remonstrance from a body of Worcester County, which consists of five and forty towns; when they incorporated seven regiments consisting of a thousand men each, chose their officers and turn out twice a week to perfect themselves in the military art, which are called 'minute men,' i. e. to be ready at a minutes warning with a fortnights provision and ammunition and arms."

Pembroke responded to the call for Minute Men with THREE companies, membership one hundred and sixty-three men, and of course there were Stetsons, for I find among the "Soldiers and Sailors" thirty Stetsons who were "minute men" mostly from the towns of Scituate, Hanover and Pembroke,---these were:

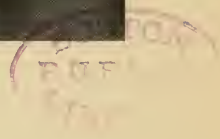
Adam	Laban
Three Benjamins	Lot
Christopher	Matthew
Ephrium	Micah
Two Gideons	Two Nathaniels
✓Hezekiah	Oliver
Isaac	Peleg
Job	Prince
Two Johns	Samuel
Jonah	Stephen
Two Josephs	Thomas

I have as nearly as I could, recorded the parentage of these.

There were many officers of good rank among these Revolutionary Stetsons. Many, it is difficult to identify when there were several of the same name. For instance there were several Benjamins officers. Probably Lieut. Benjamin of Capt. William Tur-



THOMAS DREW STETSON
New York
A Director.



ner's Company Col. Anthony Thomas' Regiment and also in Capt. Amos Turner's Company same Regiment and again in Capt. Elijah Baker's Company same Regiment, also appointed Quartermaster July 24, 1781 were one and the same man.

Then there was Sergeant Benjamin who served in Capt. William Turner's Co. and again in Capt. Amos Turner's Co.

The first was probably son of Matthew and Hannah (Lincoln) Stetson and the second may have been son of Benjamin and Lillis of whom Barry says he knew nothing.

Of Josephs there were four. One Lieut. Joseph Stetson served continuously for four years, being at the last Capt. in Col. Anthony Thomas' Regiment, must have been son of Samuel and Elizabeth Stetson.

Capt. Prince Stetson had a long service of distinction, first as Sergeant, then Lieutenant and later as Captain of a Mattross Co. He was son of Abijah and Deborah (Turner) Stetson and a descendant of Capt. Benjamin Stetson. The family removed to Freeport, Me. where from a family of twelve children, there must be many living descendants.

Capt. Isaiah Stetson, great grandson of Robert of Pembroke was born July 10, 1750, son of John and Deborah (Tower) Stetson, was a most energetic and brilliant sea captain who during the early part of the Revolution was engaged in Privateering expeditions and a large silver spoon in my possession came from one of the captured ships.

January 1, 1777 to April 13, 1780 he was in land service and commissioned as Captain, in Col. Gamaliel Bradford's 14th Regiment residence Pembroke, and engaged for the town of Pembroke, mustered by County and Continental Muster Master. July 1778, he was on the muster-roll of field, staff and commissioned officers, dated White Plains, and again April 1779, dated West Point, and September 22, 1779, was reported, "now in the field." He was Captain in this same 14th Massachusetts Regiment and on a list of settlement of rank of Continental Officers dated West Point made by a board held for the purpose, and confirmed by Congress September 6, 1779. Commissioned January 1, 1777.

Capt. Stetson, after the Revolution returned to the sea, and was lost on one of his voyages. He was master of the sloop "Republic" commanded by Capt. John Foster Williams; engaged June 12, 1776 and discharged November 18, 1776, and on June 11, 1781 was 1st Lieut. of ship "Rattlesnake" (privateer). Age 30 years; stature 5 ft. 6 in.; complexion dark. His wife was Susey Bonney and of his three daughters Silirna married Capt. Alexander Parris the famous Architect of St. Paul's Church, Boston, and many of the most prominent public buildings of the last century. Susanna married Luther Briggs of Pembroke, and they were my grand-parents. Chloe married Elijah Perry father of the late Edward L. Perry.

Nathan Stetson brother of Capt. Isaiah, entered the service before he was eighteen years old, as a private in Capt. Freedom Chamberlain's Company, July 9, 1780. He is described as 5 ft. 6 in. in stature, complexion dark and aged 22 years. He served with distinction all through the war, being promoted several times and at last became Captain. He married twice in Pembroke, and after the war, removed, as well as two of his sisters and their families to Woodstock, Vt. Later most of the children went to New York state where many descendants must now be living.

John Stetson also a descendant of Robert of Pembroke settled in Boston. In 1765 he joined the Ancient and Honorable Artillery. He was always prominent in its affairs being First Lieutenant and afterwards Captain for a number of years. During the Revolution he was Captain of the 3d Company of the Boston Regiment of Massachusetts Militia. He was a prominent carpenter and builder and is said to have built the Dome of the New State House.

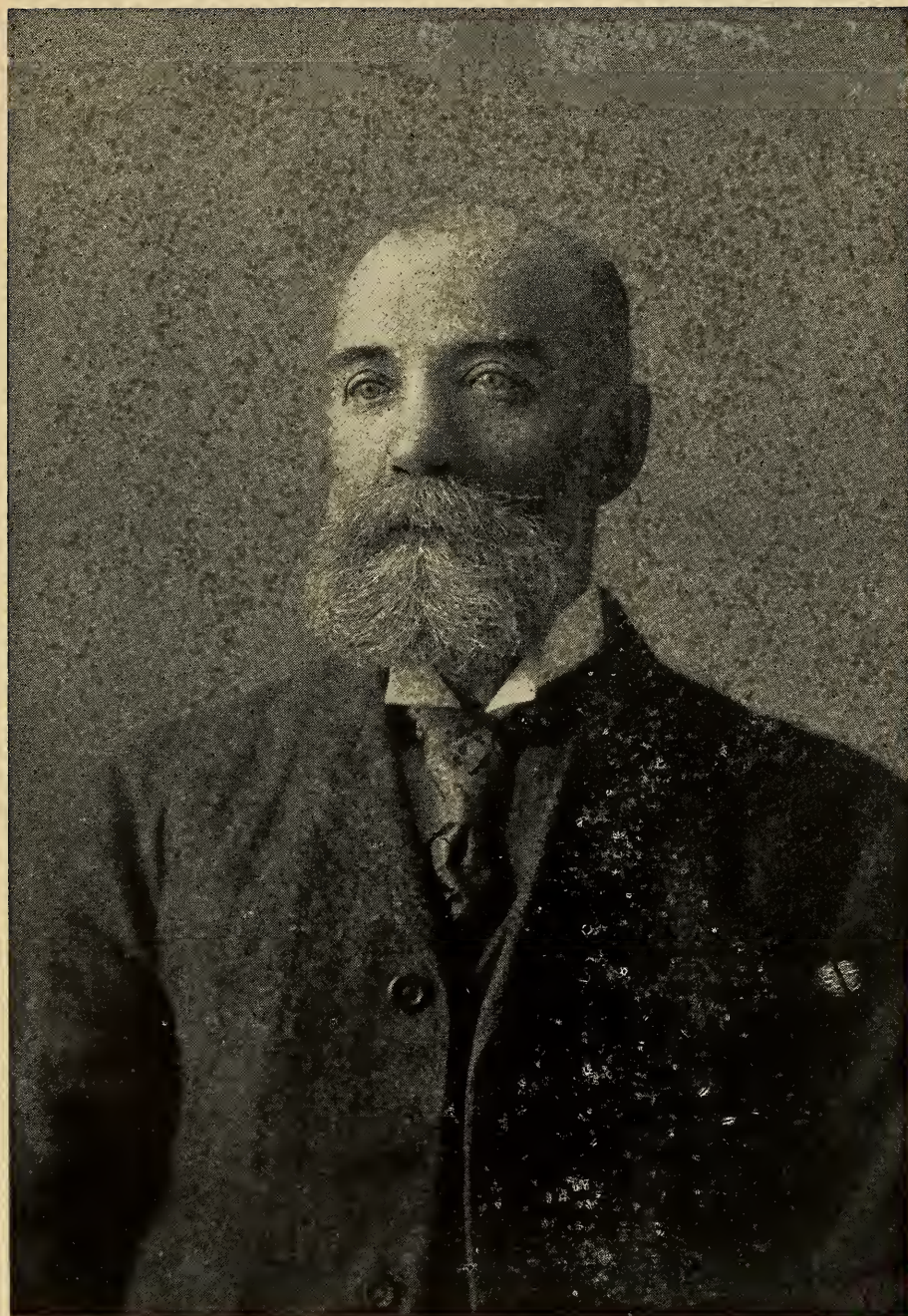
Batchelor Stetson Hanover had a long service on land and sea. He removed to Maine and left numerous descendants, among them was the late W. W. Stetson.

There was Isaac of Abington son of Peleg, and Isaac of Scituate with four entries of service and six entries of Johns.

Sometimes we got a description of a soldier, for instance that



JOHN B. STETSON, Jr.
Philadelphia, Pa.
Vice President



EZRA E. STETSON, NORWELL, MASS.

A Director.



of Nathan. Then Gideon of Scituate is recorded as 5 ft. 6 in. in height of a sallow complexion with brown hair and that he enlisted for the war, and Zenas of Pembroke on June 10, 1778 was eighteen years old, 5 ft. 9 in. in height and complexion light.

Micah sent on a secret expedition to Rhode Island.

Joshua of Hanover reputed killed.

Amos of Stoughton.

Charles of Rochester and Caleb of Plympton.

Elijah and Ephraim of Scituate each with long list of service.

Isaac of Abington enlisted for three years and in 1777 was thirty-eight years old (son of Peleg and Mercy (Ramsdell) Stetson b. Aug. 23, 1738). In short about every name given to our Stetsons is on the Revolutionary list, and if I do not speak of each one, it is for lack of time.

Without wishing to deprive anyone of a "bar" on the Revolutionary pin, for those who claim descent from Nathaniel Senior of Pembroke and either of his sons also, that the Nathaniel who served was Nathaniel Jr. Nathaniel Senior died in 1787, and in his will says "Being advanced in age" but of Sound mind and memory."

Has not this younger generation an inheritance worthy of any "Coat of Arms" which one could select? As we look abroad over these pleasant meadows and fields whereon our "Cornet" Robert planted and reaped his harvest, we might like John "Ridd" select our own "Quarterings." A cow "gules" and "couchant" a horse "rampant." There may never have been a two headed pig born on the farm to give us a "third quarter a two headed boar with noble tusks, sable upon silver, all very fierce and fine," we would all pray like him for "a peaceful quarter corner in the lower dexter, a wheat-sheaf set upright, gold upon a field of green." Surely we could all unite upon a "crest" and a motto, which might mean something like the Royal Arms of England. "Dieu et mon Droit" or any noble sentiment which would express to the present generation what their ancestors expressed by their lives, for

"Great men grew greater by the lapse of time

We know those least whom we have seen the latest;
And they 'mongst those whose names have grown sublime,
Who worked for human Liberty are greatest."

MINUTE MEN

1. Adam Stetson of Hanover, b. March 12, 1729, son of Abijah and Deborah (Turner) Stetson, was killed during Revolution, served till 1778, reported dead.

2. Benjamin Stetson, enlisted Braintree, born July 3, 1741, son of Amos and Margaret (Thayer) Stetson.

3. Benjamin Stetson, enlisted Hanover, b. April 7, 1740, son of Matthew and Hannah (Lincoln) Stetson.

4. Benjamin Stetson, enlisted Scituate, b. July 7, 1736, son of Anthony and Anna (Smith) Stetson. Private. Sergeant then Lieutenant.

5. Christopher Stetson, Scituate. Private and Drummer. b. about 1755 or 6, son of George and Eunice (Stetson) Stetson. Said to have been lost in a Privateer.

6. Elijah Stetson, Hanover. Sept. 1723, son of Elijah and Ruth (Chittenden) Stetson. Private.

7. Ephraim Stetson, Scituate, bap. Nov. 17, 1745, son of Matthew and Hannah (Lincoln) Stetson.

8. Gideon Stetson, Scituate, b. May 6, 1735, son of Gideon and Lydia (Pitcher) Stetson.

9. Gideon Stetson, Braintree, b. son of Amos and Margaret (Thayer) Stetson.

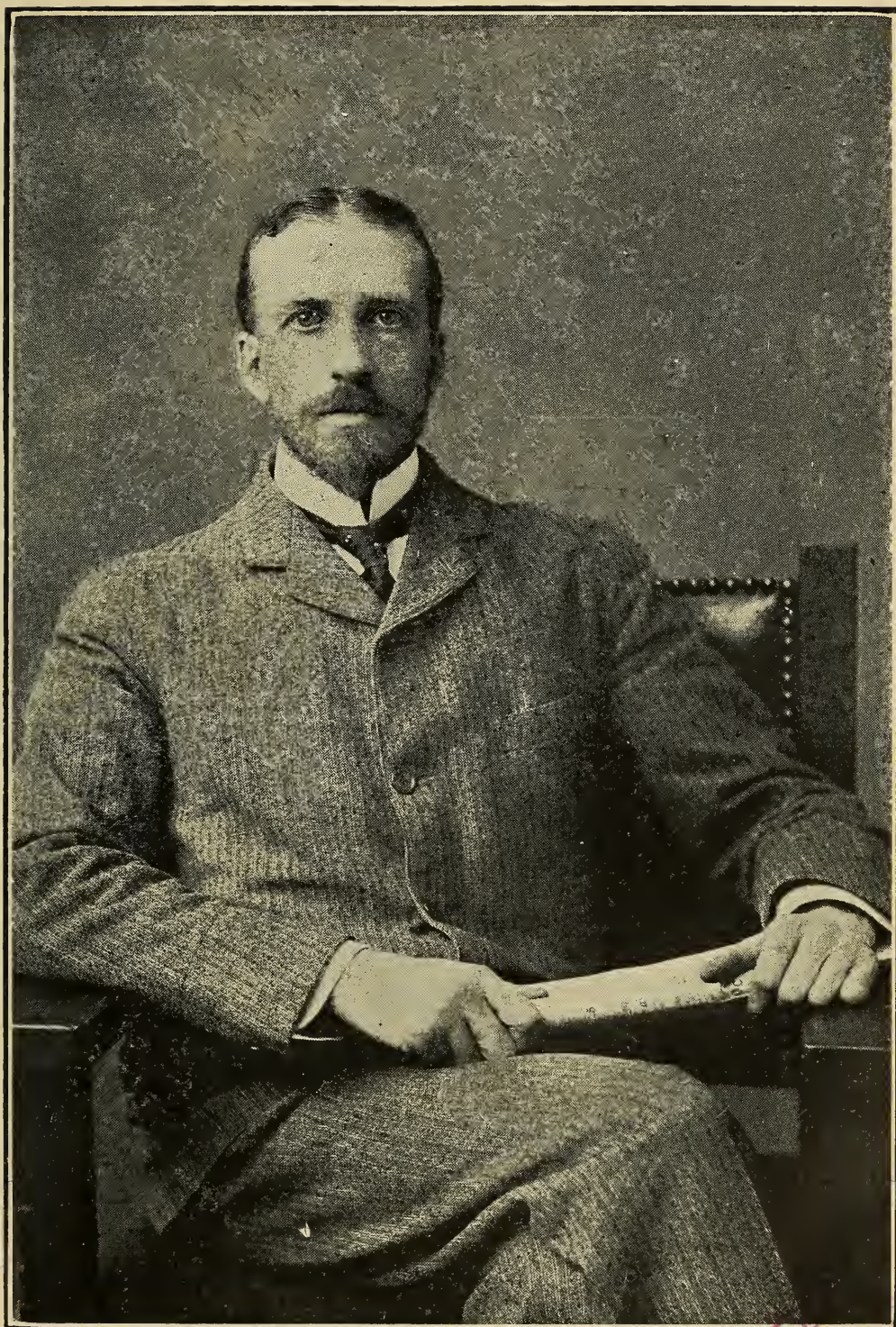
10. Hezekiah Stetson, Pembroke, b. May 20, 1720. (prob.) son of Joseph Jr. and Abigail (Hatch) Stetson.

11. Isaac Stetson, Scituate, prob. b. Nov. 20, 1750, son of Isaac and Ruth (Prouty) Stetson. Died on the Jersey prison ship.

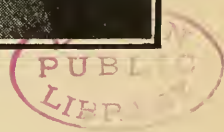
12. Job Stetson, Leicester. He was probably son of Benjamin and Lillis (Turner) Stetson, of whom Barry says, moved to parts unknown. B. Mar. 22, 1723.

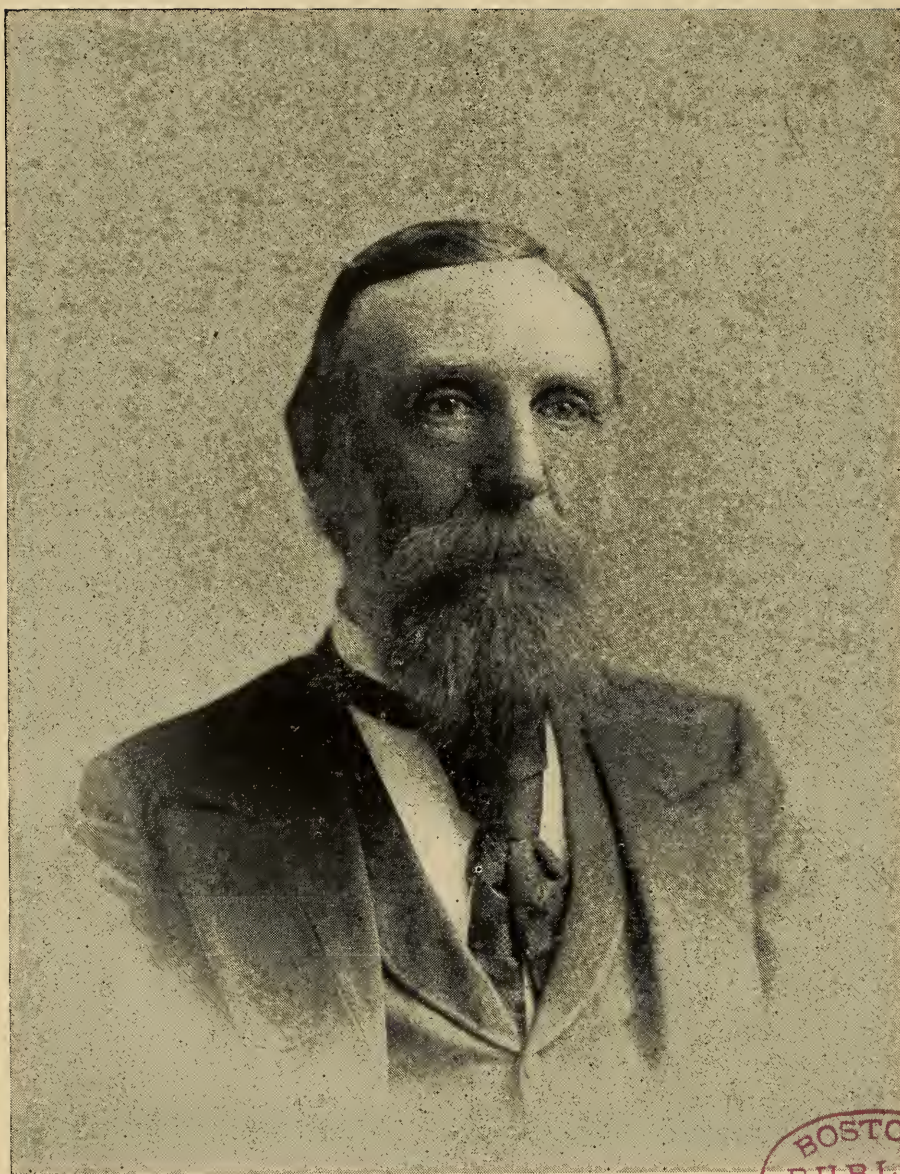
13. John Stetson, Hanover, b. Apr. 17, 1731, son of Abijah and Deborah (Turner) Stetson, and d. Apr. 15, 1811 or ae. 80.

14. John Stetson, Scituate, of whom I have learned nothing.



Dr. F. W. STETSON
Boston
A Director





DANIEL E. DAMON, HANOVER, MASS.
A Director.



15. Jonah Stetson, Scituate, prob. b. July 1721, son of Jonah and Mercy (Turner) Stetson.

16. Capt. Joseph Stetson, Scituate, bap. Sept. 30, 1722, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Stetson.

17. Joseph Stetson, Scituate, bapt. Jan. 19, 1744 or 5, son of Joseph and Mary (Eames) Stetson.

18. Laban Stetson, Abington, b. Aug. 1753, son of Peleg and Mercy (Ramsdell) Stetson.

19. Lot Stetson, Pembroke, b. Sept. 21, 1751, son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Stetson) Stetson.

20. Matthew Stetson, Scituate, b. Aug. 24, 1731, son of Matthew and Hannah (Lincoln) Stetson. Family tradition says he was the first.

21. Micah Stetson, Scituate, b. July 24, 1754, son of Jonah and Elizabeth (Hatch) Stetson.

22. Nathaniel Stetson, Pembroke, b. Mar. 4, 1746, son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Stetson) Stetson.

23. Sergt. Nathaniel Stetson, Hanover, b. 1738, son of Nathaniel and Mary (Delis) Stetson. Never married.

24. Oliver Stetson, Hanover.

25. Peleg Stetson, Jr., Abington, b. Apr. 1751, son of Peleg and Mercy (Ramsdell) Stetson of Abington.

26. Capt. Prince Stetson, Hanover, b. Aug. 1741, son of Abijah and Deborah (Turner) Stetson.

27. Samuel Stetson, Hanover, b. Feb. 19, 1726 or 7, prob. son of Samuel and Rebecca (Turner) Stetson.

28. Seth Stetson, Jr. Hanover, b. June 4, 1735, son of Seth and Elizabeth (Rose) Stetson.

29. Stephen Stetson, Scituate, b. Sept. 28, 1728, son of William and Hannah (Lapham) Stetson.

30. Thomas Stetson, Hanover, b. July 23, 1741, son of Seth and Elizabeth (Rose) Stetson of Hanover.

CAPTAIN BENJAMIN STETSON, AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS, WITH A FEW LEAVES FROM AN OLD ACCOUNT BOOK.

We hear much of the Cornet's oldest son Joseph, also of the unfortunate "Robert of Pembroke" to whom his father gave his old clothes, with the remark that he judged these "convenient for him," but what of Captain Benjamin?

I wish some one of the "Tribe of Benjamin" might come forward, and tell us the story of Benjamin, even as Mr. Damon has given us the story of the old Cornet.

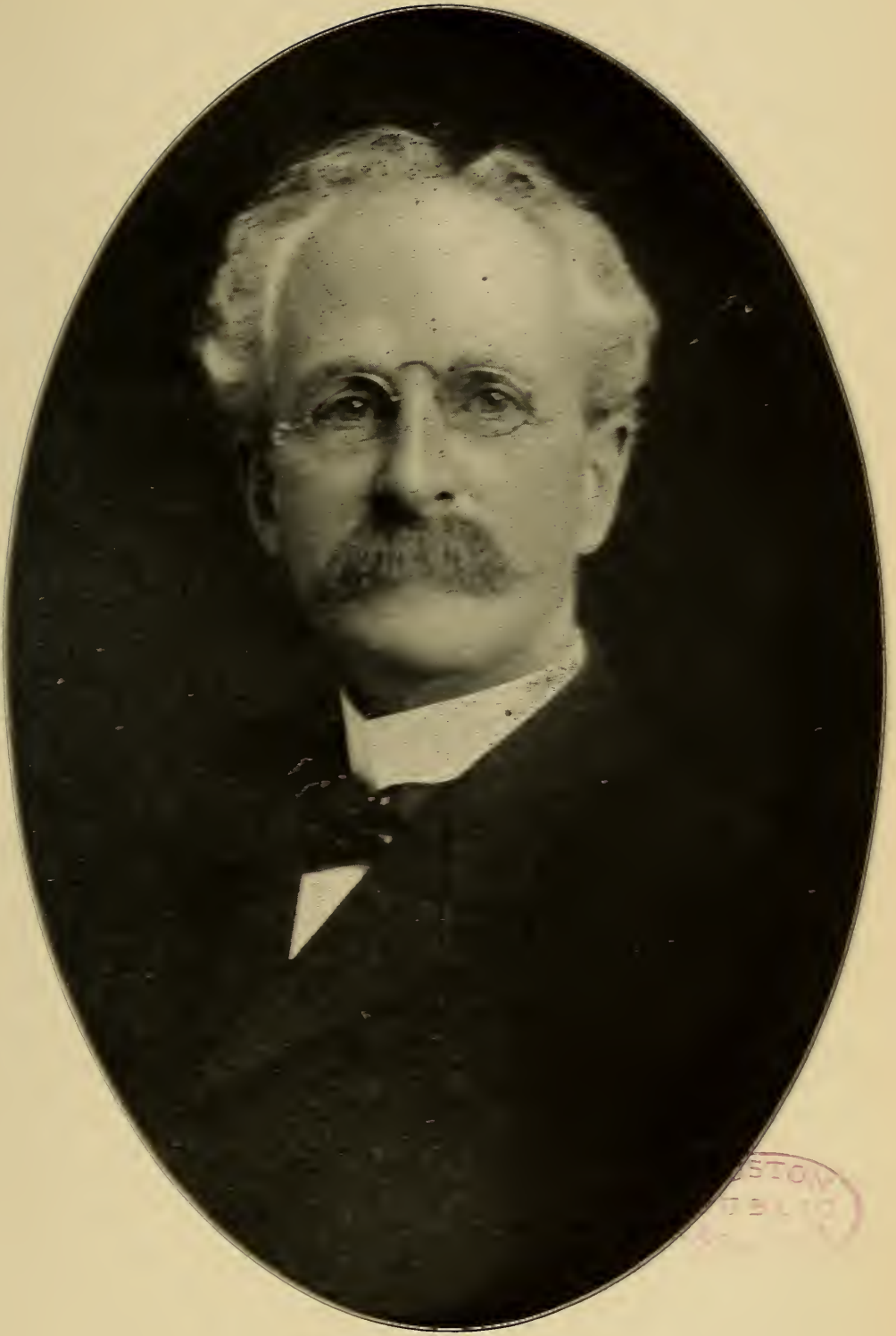
I believe Benjamin much resembled his father, that he was indeed, a veritable "chip of the old block" and am sure that if you could hear the story of his life, you would all be surprised at the remarkable resemblance between the career of the Cornet, and that of his 2nd son Captain Benjamin.

Mr. Barry says, "Benjamin married Bethiah," but he evidently hadn't discovered her surname. It is now known that he married in 1667, Bethiah Hawke of Hingham, daughter of Matthew Hawke—grammar school master, and town clerk of Hingham, whose children became the ancestors of some of the most noted families of New England.

Matthew Hawke's daughter Sarah, married John Cushing, and came to Scituate, as recorded in the Hingham Records. Her son John, became judge of the Superior Court of Massachusetts. Her grandson John was also Judge of the Superior Court for 24 years, and his son, William Cushing, L.L.D. became Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and administered the oath to Washington on his 2nd inauguration.

Captain James Hawke, Matthew's only son, was the great-grandfather of John Hancock, the 1st signer of the Declaration of Independence, and for several years Governor of Massachusetts.

In the old burying-ground at Hingham is a stone bearing this inscription:



NELSON MITCHELL STETSON
Abington, Mass.
A Director.

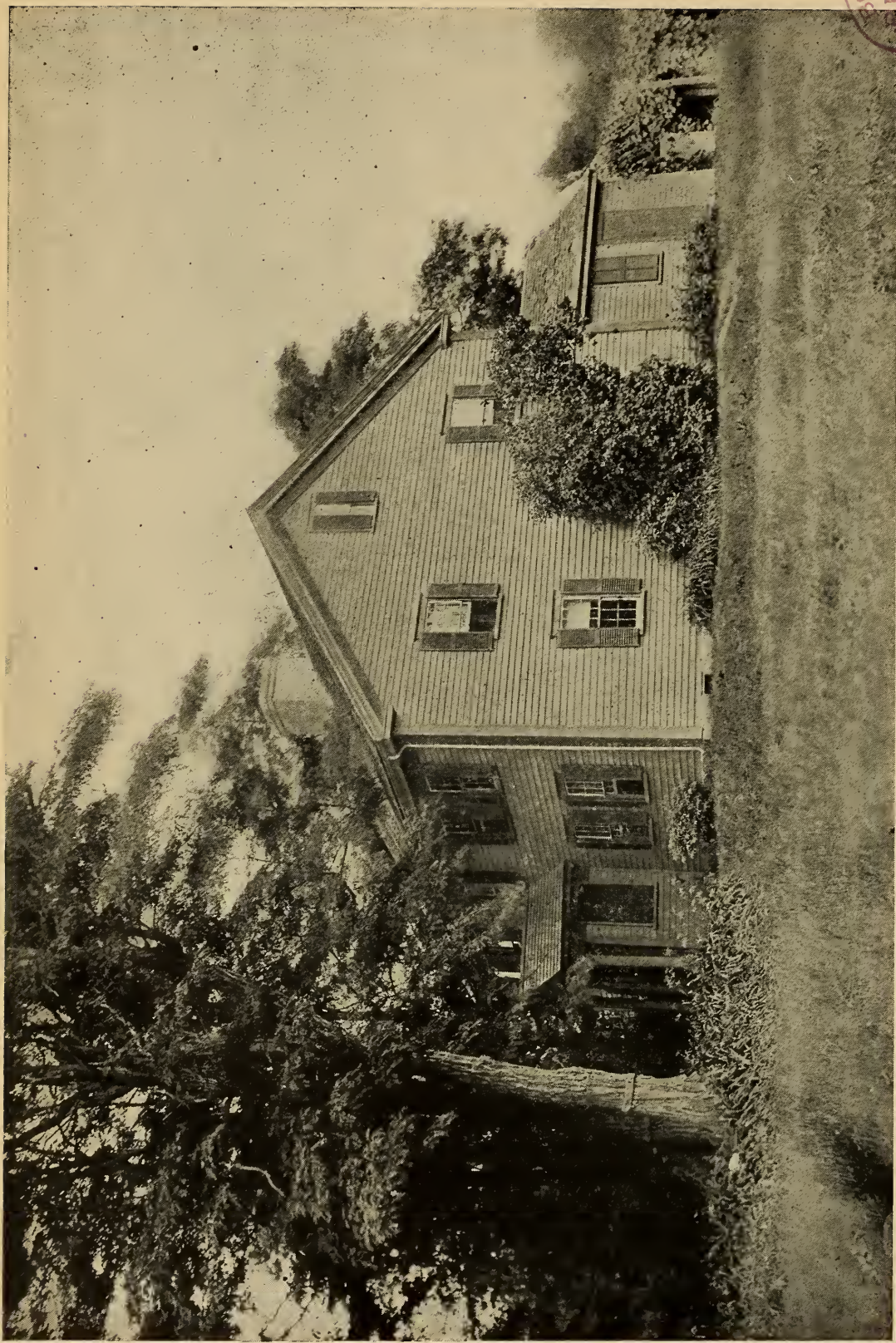


Fig. 2. "Matthew Stetson House" at Hanover Four Corners (now known as the Priscilla Eells House).
Occupied by Matthew Stetson when Hanover was incorporated in 1727.

“Here lies ye body of Matthew Hawke, aged 74 years, Decd. December ye 11th, 1684.”

Very interesting to us when we remember that *Matthew Hawkes' daughter Bethiah, was the mother of all of the descendants of Captain Benjamin.*

In 1674 the Cornet deeded to Benjamin “In consideration of the fondest love and fatherly affection which I bear to my well beloved son” a tract of land extending from the river on the East, one-half mile back to the “Comon” on the West. A part of the line on the north, was from “a fork-ed Birch tree in the swamp, unto a mark-ed beech tree close by the brooke side” “said Robert Stetson doth by these presents reserve for himself and any that shall come of his family, and possess his habitation a way to and from the landing-place at *Bald Hills*, free, and without any molestation, hindrance or disturbance.” This deed was witnessed by the Cornet’s trusted friends and associates, General James Cudworth, and Isaac Chittenden. (Plym. Rec. Book 1, Page 28)

This was at the beginning of the Indian wars, a very critical time in the history of the Colony. It is probable that Benjamin had already established his home at Bald Hills (having been married in 1667) and the immediate prospect of war with its uncertainties may have induced the Cornet to give Benjamin a deed just at this time.

NOTE.—At this time, 1674, General Cudworth was Commander-in-Chief of the Colony forces, also Governor’s Assistant, while the Cornet and Isaac Chittenden were Deputies from Scituate, and all three were members of the Council of war, and a special committee from Scituate to procure clothing &c. for the soldiers. The Cornet had already served 5 years as deputy with General Cudworth, and 8 years with Isaac Chittenden. Incidentally two years later when the Indians made their disastrous descent upon Scituate burning the Cornet’s mill and the homes of the settlers, Isaac Chittenden was killed in the defence of his home.

“Deane’s History of Scituate” published 81 years ago says “The veteran Cornet Stetson was constantly on horseback, either in making voluntary excursions with Gen. Cudworth, (as tradition asserts) or in returning to encourage the garrisons at home, or in guiding the directions of the Council of war.”

We must remember that in the days of the Cornet, and later, all through the ship building days, the river farms were much more valuable than now. The river was then a sluggish stream, bankful, only occasionally overflowing, and with grass for their winter's supply of hay, growing naturally on the meadows. The violent storm of 1898 forced a new mouth to the river and now at high tide, the swamps are inundated with salt water, thus killing the trees, and making worthless bogs of what was once firm meadow.

Benjamin built his home near the river, an hundred rods South of (and probably in sight of) the old homestead, and near the Bald Hills, where the river in a graceful curve touches the upland. Here he and his descendants lived for 5 generations and reared their large families.

More than half a century ago, my father, Samuel, of the 6th and last generation to occupy the old house, removed with his aged mother, and the old house was deserted. A few years later it was burned. One by one nature has taken possession of the deserted fields, and now

“tangled barberry bushes
Hang their tufts of crimson berries
Over stonewalls gray with mosses”

and nothing marks the spot, save the outlines of the old cellar, and a few gnarled apple trees where was once the orchard.

In 1678 the Cornet served his 17th (18th?) term as Deputy to the old Colony Court at Plymouth. In 1691 his son Benjamin was chosen to fill this same office. He was the last Deputy to Plymouth, and after the union of Plymouth with Massachusetts colony, he served 3 terms as representative to the General Court at Boston, this too at a time when Scituate was the most populous town in Plymouth Colony, and contained many of its ablest men.

Mr. Barry tells us that Captain Benjamin was very active in the church,—that his name appears frequently on the church records. He fails however, to mention his career as a soldier,—but, in “Deane’s History of Scituate” we read “Captain Joseph Sylvester had a farm north of Church Hill, was Captain in Phipp’s expedition, and died in the service. His will was verbal, and proven in the courts by three of his soldiers, i. e. Benjamin Stet-



Fig. 3. "Abner Stetson House."

January 15 1751 then reckoned with
 Robert Stetson on book
 and all other and then is due to him to balance the
 sum of ————— 10-00-00
 Mathew Stetson.
 Robert Stetson
 August 1752 to your son Robert 8 days
 killing and making hay ————— 4-00-00
 a pair shus for grass —————
 a pair shus for corn —————
 to a pair shus for grass —————
 to Hannah and John shus —————

Fig. 4. From Account with "Robert Stetson Jr."

to, Ben and Matthew a Day ————— 02-00-00
 to a pitchfork you lost ————— 00-12-00
 to a chain mended ————— 00-04-00
 1747 Debt for pastoring 3 Caves ^{first December} together
 to your ex^{or} my pastor twelve
 Dollars for your ex^{or} lying in my
 corn all night and put down 6 two
 bushel baskets full beside what they
 eat and spoil which you promised
 to pay me corn again but not paid
 to your hers my pastor six days
 to three bushels turning ————— 10-10-00
 November 19 1757 then reckoned with
 Abijah Stetson on on book and all
 accounts on book balanced from
 the beginning of the world to this day
 Abijah Stetson

Fig. 5. From Account with Abijah Stetson

son, and John and William Perry," so it seems that Benjamin was one of those chosen by Captain Sylvester to carry home to his wife and family, the sad news of defeat and death. Soon after his return he was made Captain, and although true that he held this office at a comparatively peaceful time, it is evident that he had his full share of active service before he was made Captain.

In 1695 Scituate was $\frac{1}{3}$ larger than any other town in the Colony. The militia numbered nearly 200 men, and it became necessary to divide it into two companies, Captain Benjamin's command on the south, embraced the territory now included in the towns of Hanover, Norwell and a part of Marshfield.

The Cornet's 5th son, John, was ensign in Captain Sylvester's company, and died on this expedition.

Captain Benjamin also lost a son on this fatal expedition,—his 2nd son Matthew, (evidently named for his grandfather Matthew Hawke) a promising young man of twenty-one.

We know that a considerable portion of the Cornet's real estate was granted him for services to the Colony. Captain Benjamin also received a similar grant, for as a member of Captain Sylvester's company, he received as part payment for his services in the Canadian Expedition, "a share in a township in Hampshire County adjoining Winchendon" and in the division of the 2nd Benjamin's property in 1741, this land was still in the family, and together with the homestead, the pew ("situated between the Minister's (Mr. Eells) pew, and Mr. Collamore's old pew") in the old church, and other property, was allotted to the oldest son Matthew.

Even in the matter of raising a family Benjamin was not to be outdone by the Cornet, his children numbering ten—one better than the old veteran.

There seems to be very little recorded of Benjamin, the oldest son of Captain Benjamin, but enough however to show that he had the characteristics of his father, and grandfather.

In 1720 the town of Scituate granted to Captain Joseph Barstow, and Benjamin Stetson (2nd) two acres of land between "Pine Hill" and "Rocky Run" in what is now the town of Han-

over, for the erection of a "forge and finery" which was built and used by them for many years. This was at South Hanover where now stand the Tack works of E. Phillips & Sons.

Benjamin 2nd married Grace Turner, daughter of Thomas Turner, and sister of "Lawyer Thomas Turner" (so called on the Scituate records) of whom Mr. Jedediah Dwelley says in the "History of Hanover," "He was one of the most distinguished lawyers in the old colony and grandfather of James Turner, for 3 years Governor of South Carolina and also U. S. Senator."

Benjamin 2nd died in 1739. His gravestone in the old church yard still remains but, Alas! The place by his side where his wife Grace Turner rested for more than an hundred years, is now occupied by another, and even the footstone of his own grave has been removed to make room for strangers.

Mr. Barry's record of Capt. Benjamin's son James is very imperfect, although certain that his posterity is numerous.

Of the daughters mentioned in the settlement i. e. Bethiah Andrews, Hannah Tileston, Deborah Fisher, Eunice James and Mary Partridge, we have the record of only one—Eunice, who married in 1700, the 1st Dea. John James, and thus became the ancestor of the noted and numerous family of that name in Scituate, Medford, and elsewhere. The Hon. Charles Sumner was of this family.

It is my good fortune to have inherited a quaint and very interesting old account book, used by the descendants of Capt. Benjamin on these same old hills, for over a century, beginning in 1740, and it may interest you to know that between 1740 and 1790 there are accounts with no less than 29 Stetsons, nearly all evidently heads of families, so you see what a numerous family we were here in those days.

Matthew Stetson, who opened this account book in 1740, was born Nov. 5th 1690, the same month in which his uncle Matthew (for whom he was evidently named) was killed in the wars. He was the oldest son of the 2nd Benjamin, and the 3rd to occupy Capt. Benjamin's farm at Bald Hills, and twelve years of age when the Cornet died. Being the old man's 1st great-grandson,

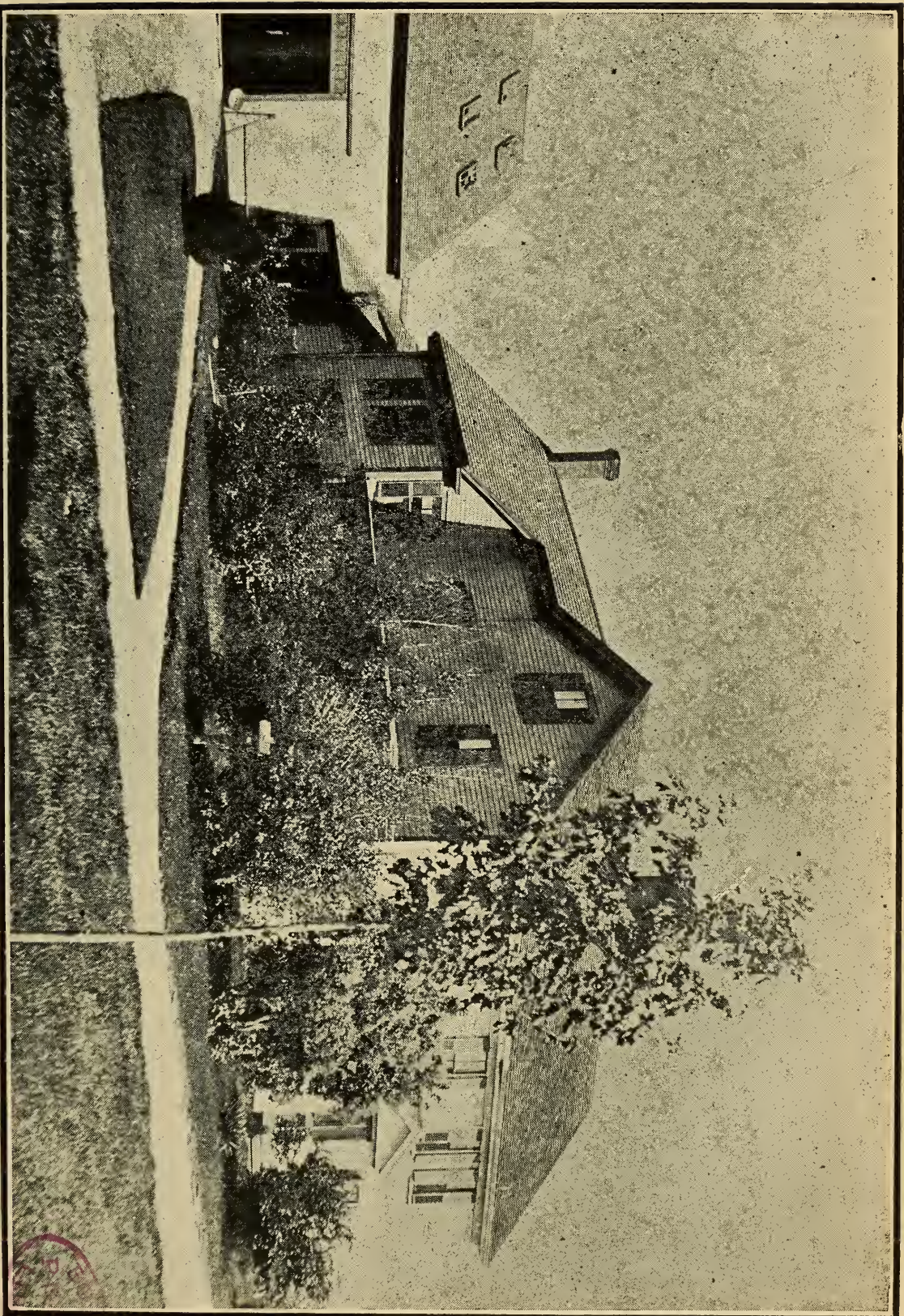
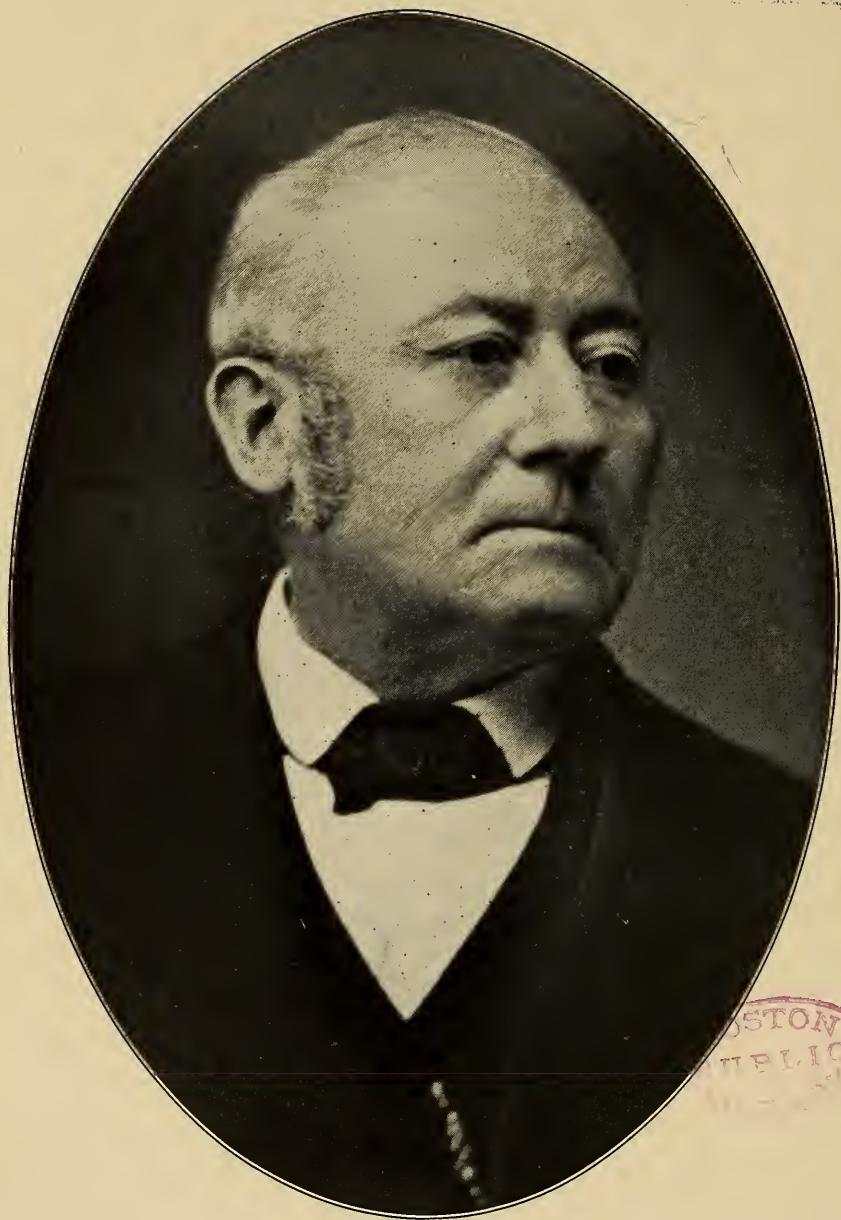


Fig. 6. "Abijah Stetson House" in Hanover. (Now occupied by Chas. H. Dwellley). "Occupied by Abijah Stetson and his descendants from about 1735 to 1856"—*Jedediah Dwellley*.



CHARLES A. STETSON

A famous Landlord of the Astor House seventy-five years ago.
(Fig. 7.)

and living within sight of the old house, it requires no great stretch of the imagination, to picture him sitting on his great-grandfather's knee, listening by the hour to stories of the Naragansett fight, the burning of the old mill, or of adventures with Chickatabutte, and King Philip.

The "Matthew Stetson House" (Fig. 2) was occupied by Matthew Stetson when the town of Hanover was incorporated in 1727, and probably built by him on land allotted to him in the division of the Common lands some years previous.

On the death of his father Benjamin 2nd in 1739, Matthew returned to the old home at Bald Hills, where he was born, and opened the old acct. book. The next year 1740, he sold for 410 £ the above house and blacksmith's shop, with the 5½ acres of land on which they stood, to Maltiah Dillingham, who succeeded him as the "Village Blacksmith" at Hanover 4 Corners. (Plym. Rec. Book 40, P. 24.) Later, in the account with Maltiah, I notice that in 1746 he paid Matthew the sum of 12 pounds as "boot between anvils."

Matthew married Hannah Lincoln, daughter of Solomon Lincoln, and great-grand-daughter of the Cornet via Joseph.

The Cornet's oldest son Joseph deeded the land on which the "Abner Stetson House" (Fig. 3) stands to his son Samuel, May, 1707. Samuel's oldest son Abner was born Nov. 3d, 1712. We have not discovered when the house was built, but Abner inherited it from his father, and died here Nov. 20, 1805 very aged.

Abner married Deborah Stetson daughter of Matthew Stetson, thus reuniting the families of Joseph and Benjamin. Their son Abner with his veins thus reinforced, went to Maine in 1793 and had a family of 13 children, and it was his son Abner who built so many vessels at the same time rearing a family of 18 children, 13 of whom lived to be married.

When we remember that this old book begun in 1740, was used for more than an hundred years, within an hundred rods of this spot, and kept for many years by one who must have enjoyed the companionship of the Cornet for at least a dozen years, it becomes doubly interesting.

I am sorry these old fellows didn't keep their accounts more in the form of a journal, for although kept all through the war of the Revolution by the 2nd Matthew, who answered the call on the memorable 19th of April 1775, yet I find no reference whatever to the war. Nevertheless, we can draw some amusing deductions from what we do find. For instance, between the year 1747 and 1752 "Robert Stetson, Jr." (the great-great-grandfather of our president Mr. Francis Lynde Stetson) became indebted to Matthew Stetson (my grandfather's grandfather) for quantities of farm produce. Among other things, "3 cow skins" "a side of soul leather" "a 5 pound chees" "460 herrings" "a 7 pound goos" and so on. In payment for which he made a pair of "shus" for "ben" "grace" "hannah" "deborah" and "Jacob" also including "a pair for my wife." He also under date of Aug. 1752 sent his son "robert" then a lad of thirteen who worked 8 days "hill-ing and making hay." This account was balanced in 1752 over the signature of both Robert and Matthew. (Fig. 4)

The following items are from the account of Matthew with his brother Abijah in 1747:-

"to boot between my bul and your hefer 1£. 10s. 0d."

"to pich-fork you lost, twelve shillings"

"For pasturing 3 caves for a while"

"Debter for your oxen being in my corn all night and puld down 6 two bushel baskits full besides what they eat and spiled, which you promised me corn again but not paid." (Fig. 5)

The account ends thus "Nov. 19, 1757"

"Then reckoned with Abijah Stetson as on book and all accounts on book ballanced from the beginning of the world to this day. "Abijah Stetson." (Fig. 6.)

Abijah was the great-grandfather of Dea. John of Medford, also of Charles A. Stetson celebrated 70 years ago as friend and host of Daniel Webster, and proprietor of the Astor House, of N. Y. City, then perhaps the principal hotel in America. (Fig. 7)

Scattered through the various accounts we find items like the following:

"Nathaniel Church Jr. Dr."

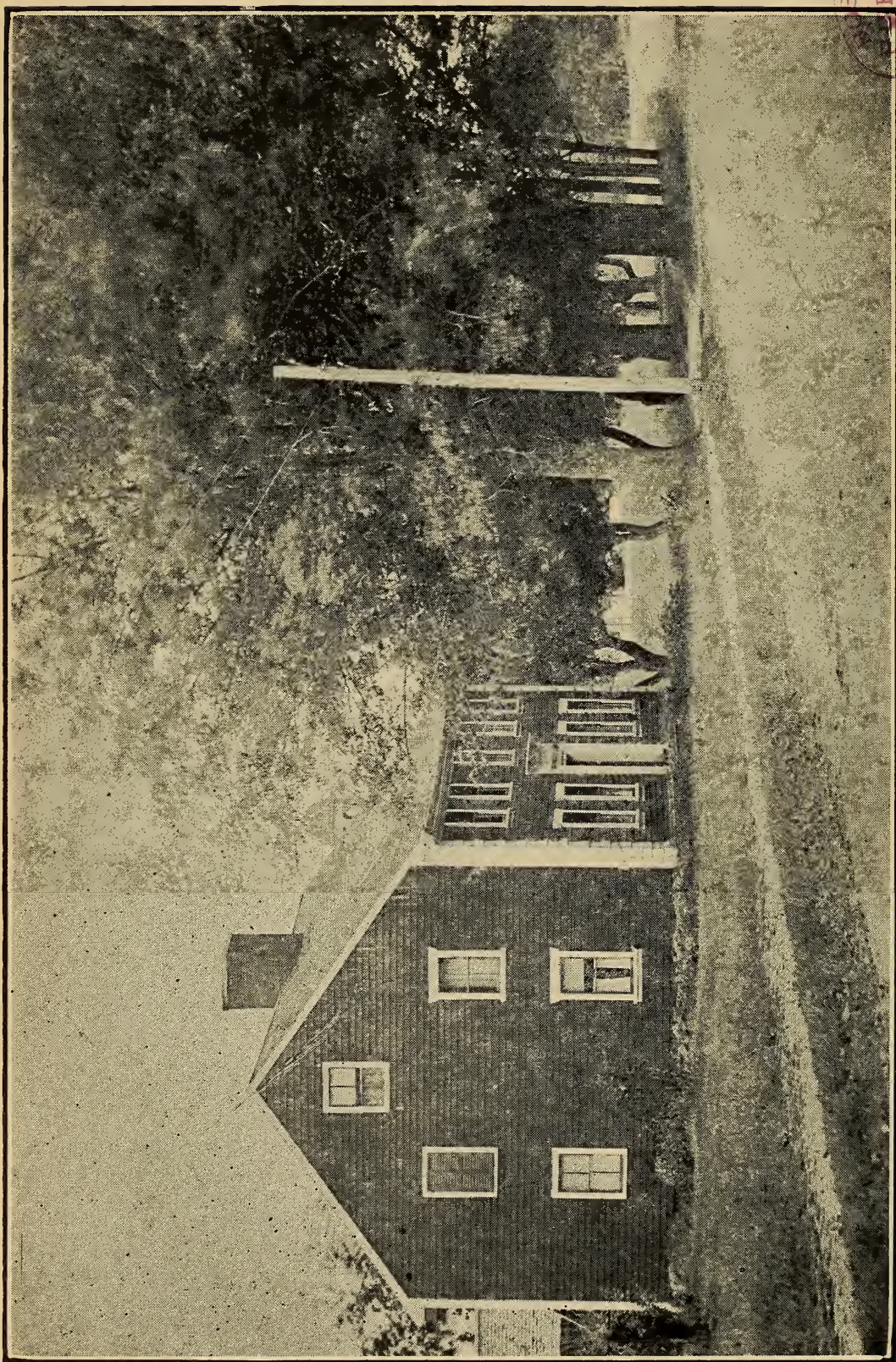
April 1752	mr William silvester	debtor for half	
	a load hay at my barn		04-10-00
	more to two bushels oats		01-04-00
	to half bushel seed corn		00-15-00
	to schooling your son william five		01-13-00
	weeks four days		

Fig. 8. From Account with William Silvester

october 1744	william stetson	my oxen day	07-00
	to shuing old shoes		00-03-00
march	to plow shore laid collar shuin		15-00
	to irons for shouel		00-02-00
may 1746	to pasturing 3 hifers		07-10-00
	to what you had of my wood		00-11-00
	to iron work to the shoup		00-10-00
April 18 1747	then reckoned with william stetson		
	in all accounts on book and balanced		
july 1749	william stetson	debtor for shoup	01-01-04
	built at cold hills		
november 1750	to young year & winter pastured		00-06-00
	to a quarter mutton $4\frac{3}{4}$		00-01-5 $\frac{1}{2}$
	to a goose $4\frac{2}{4}$ wait		00-02-1
november 18 1751	William stetson	to school	16-00
	fifteen weeks		
october 1752	to two bushels side		00-10-00
	to six machif		00
may 1752	to 4 yearlings to pasture		01-01-04

Fig. 9. From Account with William Stetson.





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Fig. 10. "Drummer Samuel Stetson House" in Hanover built in 1716 by "Drummer Stetson."
(Now the residence of Rev. Wm. H. Dowden.)

"Jan. 11, 1747"

"To your part of load of wood to school house"

"To my oxen and boy to help draw it"

Again (Fig. 8) "Mr. William Sylvester Dr." "April 1752
To schooling your son William 5 weeks and 4 days 1£. 03s. 00d."

Again in the account of Charles Sampson:

"April 1749. To schooling your boy to Feby the eleventh"

"Nov. 12, 1751. To schooling Charles 13 weeks."

Another from the acct. of "Bezaleel Palmer" who lived just south of Church Hill.

"April 174 $\frac{3}{4}$ To cart load of wood to scool house"

The following items are from the account of Othniel Pratt, who lived in Hanover, on the Plymouth road.

"Jan. 15, 1752. Jonathan to *school*"

"1754 January 7th day. Mr. prats 2 boys to scool"

(later)

"Jonathan to scool 15 days of January, and scool them a while in March"

From these accounts it is plain that *there was a "scool house"* and that *Matthew Stetson was the "scool master"*. To be sure the "scool house" was one h. "shy" and he spelled "shus" with a u. and "goos" without an e. but this only indicated that he had already adopted the Phonetic method of spelling, and was 160 years ahead of his age.

We wonder where the old school house was, and what it was like. Of course we shall never know. History makes no mention of either school, school-house or school-master.

An item in the acct. with William Stetson (the great-great-grandfather of our Secretary Mr. George W. Stetson) who lived on this very spot in the house which stood 20 feet south of the present one, shows that previous to 1749 William Stetson paid Matthew Stetson, for work on "*Sloop built at Bald Hill*," 1£. 01s. 4d. thereby proving what Dr. Briggs in his famous "*History of shipbuilding on North River*" failed to establish, i. e. that *vessels were built at Bald Hills and by Stetsons*.

From another item in this account it is evident that William's

sons "Will and Stephen" attended school previous to Nov. 18, 1751, 15 weeks, for which William paid Matthew Stetson 15 shillings. (Fig. 9.)

Perhaps I attach too much importance to these old accounts, but we must remember that these things happened a long time ago. When this old book was opened in 1740, Boston had a population of only 12,000 people, and George Washington had only recently been busy with his hatchet. Moreover it gives us a glimpse into the lives of scores of these old settlers of whom we have no other record.

(Fig. 11.) Here is an account with "Uncle Samuel Stetson Drummer." If this Samuel *was* Matthew's uncle (and surely Matthew ought to have known) then he was the son of Captain Benjamin, and 30 years of age when the Cornet died, and 77 when he put his signature to this settlement.

Mr. Barry found no record of Samuel the son of Capt. Benjamin, beyond the date of his birth, but in the division of Capt. Benjamin's property in 1715 (Prob. Rec. Vol. 3, P. 381) three allotments of land are made to his son Samuel—one being "The 14 acres of land near the Drinkwater road and near the Wolf trap."

Mr. Barry calls "Drummer Samuel Stetson" the son of "Sergeant Samuel." Is it possible that Mr. Barry was in error? and that he was the son of Capt. Benjamin after all?

This "Drummer Stetson," as he is called on the records, built as early as 1716, the house in Hanover where the Rev. Wm. H. Dowden now lives. Mr. Barry says "He was a somewhat noted man in his day, his house being a tavern stand and a famous resort." Mr. Jedediah Dwelley says in the new "History of Hanover" "This house was constructed by Drummer Samuel Stetson who lived and died here. (Fig. 10.) Religious meetings were held here before the first Meeting house was constructed. Turner Stetson who was selectman for 27 years and moderator at 14 town meetings was born here, as were the 19 children of Samuel Stetson who died here in 1859."

To my mind, the most valuable information given us through the medium of this old book, is the unquestionable proof that the

February 21 1750
 then reckoned with uncle Samuel Stetson
 Drumer in all accounts on book and their
 is due to me Matthew Stetson ~~one~~ pounds
 six shillings and eight pence - 09 - 18 - 8
 Lancelot mmy
 Mathew Stetson
 more to four day works - 1 - 8

Fig. 11. Settlement of Account with "Uncle Samuel Stetson Drumer."

November 1746 Nathaniel Church third
 Doctor Bolt 09 00
 for my oxen to marshfield - 01 - 00 - 00
 to my son Lincoln to bring back your hers - 08 - 00
 when you went to Boston
 October 1748 my oxen to cart load plank 00 - 07 - 00
 from nashers yard to bald hills; and
 my boy to load them
 to my boy and oxen to fix to lanch - 06 - 00
 to my oxen to draw back cross ways 00 - 05 - 00
 to my oxen to raise masts - 06 - 06 - 00
 October 10 to mathew to raft plank from 00 - 10 - 00
 bald hills to nashers
 to one pound ten shillings sent by el - 10 - 00
 Capt. Bonnet from Boston
 June 29 to help on load your scow - 00 12 - 00
 at Boston
 December 5 1749 then reckoned with
 Nathaniel Church third in all accounts
 from the beginning of the world to this
 day and Callanced Nathaniel Church
 August 1 1750 John Lambert third to Lincoln aday 15 00
 more to Lincoln aday - 00 15 - 00
 August 3 to Lincoln aday - 00 15 00
 X Lincoln to mathew a day with Elizabeth and me - 00 00

Fig. 12. From Account with Nathaniel Church "third".

1746 to 2 Loads iron
 to a peck beans Lent — — 00-06-00
 to a span socket — — 00-05-00
 to a load carted by Isaac Girden 08-00-00
 August 25 1753 to a load ^{with 5. worth} ~~iron~~ ^{by} — 08-00-00
 58 11 00
 June 10 1754 then Received with anna
 Stetson and billon as she is Executrix to
 the Estate of Gersham Stetson Late of
 Scituate Deceased and then Remain Due
 to said in Stetson four shillings two pence
 and two farthings and full money as
 witness our hands this 10th of June 1754
 Matthew Stetson 42-2

Fig. 13. From Account with Gersham Stetson.

February i day 1748-9 the account of the iron
 work of the vessel Ebenezer Stetson and
 Snow Stetson builders George Stetson owners
 to bolts for the Kilson — 74 pound
 to spoiks — — — 20 1-2
 April 14 1749 then received of Capt Jonathan Tilding on the account
 of the iron work of his schooner a barrel of pork
 May 18 to corn twenty bushels
 Credit half chadron coll.

Fig. 14

February i day 1748-9 the account of the iron
 work of the vessel Ebenezer Stetson and
 Snow Stetson builders George Stetson owners
 to bolts for the Kilson — 74 pound
 to spoiks - - - 20 1-2 "

April 14, 1749—then received of Capt. Jonathan Tilding on the account
 of the iron work of his schooner a barrel of pork
 May 18 to corn twenty bushels
 Credit half chadron coll.

landing place at Bald Hills was once a busy ship yard.

Items from the acct. with Nathaniel Church 3d in 1746 read:

"To my oxen to cart a load of plank from Nashe's yard to *Bald Hill yard*"

"My boy to load them"

"To fixing to lanch"

"To drawing back cross ways"

"To raising masts"

"To Matthew to raft plank from *Bald Hill to Nashes*" (Fig. 12.) From this it would appear that Nathaniel Church 3d who owned a farm south of the Capt. Benjamin farm, built vessels at the Bald Hill yard in 1746.

In the account with Gersham Stetson beginning in 1746 it is interesting to notice in the settlement in 1757, the signature of the widow Anna Stetson, standing out as plainly as though written yesterday, instead of being executed with a quill one June day 154 years ago. (Fig. 13). This Gersham was grandson of the Cornet via Thomas, the Cornet's 3d son. His wife was Anna King, daughter of Dea. Thomas King and grand-daughter of Elder Thomas King (the 2nd Elder of the Church) whose gravestone bearing date of 1691 (a relic from the original burying-ground of the old church) was recently discovered by Mr. George C. Turner (a member of the kindred) under an old corn barn, between the post and sill, serving to keep the rats away.

Gersham's sister Hannah married John Foster and became the direct ancestor of Hon. Levi P. Morton, Ex. Vice President of the United States, and *now a member of "The Stetson Kindred of America."*

I find by the records at Plymouth, that Gersham Stetson, shop-keeper, for 145 pounds, released to his brother Ebenezar Stetson, "builder" his share in the estate of his "honored father Thomas Stetson." This place is now known as the "Ford farm" The house stood where now stands the large old house built probably, by Michael Ford, who purchased this estate of the Stetsons in 1781.

Ebenezar Stetson, in 1749, when his sons Ebenezar and Snow

had grown to manhood, leased of Matthew Stetson, a portion of the Capt. Benjamin farm as follows:

(Plym. Rec. B. 40, P. 86). I Matthew Stetson of Scituate, blacksmith, do grant to Ebenezar Stetson of Scituate, housewright land . . . being the lower part of my farm . . . moing land with corn now standing *also the ship yard on said land* to have and to hold for and during the term of 3 years to pass and re-pass through my other land with carts as much as said Ebenezar Stetson shall have need, for and in consideration of 300£ old tenor, to me paid &c. &c. Witnessed by

Matthew Stetson Jr.

Ebenezar Stetson Jr.

Just think of it! *He leased the old Bald Hills including the ship yard in 1749 for 100£ a year.* During the following 3 years the accts. with Ebenezar and Snow Stetson show over 100 entries for spikes, bolts, hooks, deck-nails, windlass-clasps, hatch-rings, staples, rudder-hoops, port-hinges, bowsprit-irons, &c. &c.

Thus we have a chapter in the history of North River, which could never have been written were it not for these old accounts. Most of the ship builders here spoken of, as Wm. Stetson, Amos Perry, Nathaniel Church 3d, "Jo. Stetson builder" and Seth Stetson, were not mentioned by Dr. Briggs as builders, in his exhaustive "History of Shipbuilding on North River." He gives an interesting account of Snow Stetson *Junior*, but the items relating to vessels built by Ebenezar and Snow Stetson, for George Stetson and others (Fig. 14) were furnished him from this same old book. I am convinced that ships were built on the Cornet's farm at Bald Hill at a very early date, and believe that could we see the accounts of the two Benjamins for the 70 years previous to 1740, they would deal with ship-builders at Bald Hill, as do the early accts. of Matthew.

The farm of Benjamin Stetson 3d, (Fig. 15) a farm of 60 acres was laid out from the common lands of Scituate to James Bates about 1690. Cornet Stetson immediately purchased and deeded it to his son Capt. Benjamin (Plym. Rec. B. 4, P. 76). It was owned successively by Cornet Stetson, Capt. Benjamin Stet-

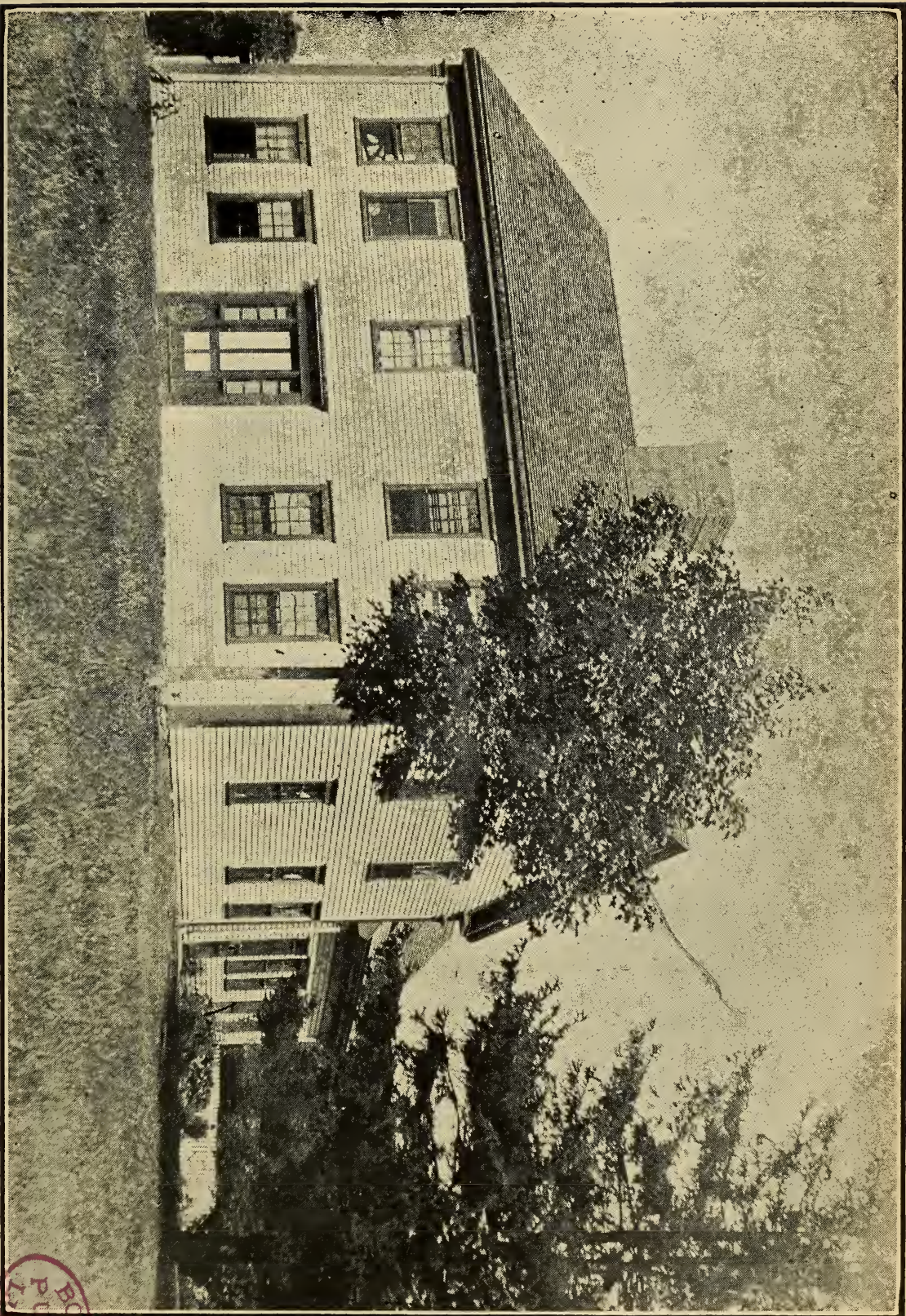


Fig. 15. "Benjamin Stetson 3d House" in Hanover built by him in 1729 and occupied by him and his descendants for two generations. (Now occupied by John S. Smith.)



(Kodak Enlargement)

CLARA SILSBY STETSON
Abington, Mass.

A member of the "Kindred" who has been present at every meeting. She is the 9th generation from the Cornet via Capt. Benjamin also the 9th via Joseph. In the picture she has just plucked a bouquet of daisies, and hiding them she exclaims—"which hand will you have papa?"

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son, Benjamin Stetson 2nd, and Benjamin Stetson 3d. The deed from Benjamin 2nd to Benjamin 3d in 1725 (the year in which Benjamin 3d was married) was a deed of 81 acres, "being a part of two 60 acre lots," $40\frac{1}{2}$ acres of the original James Bates lot and $40\frac{1}{2}$ acres of the original John Vassel lot (Plym. Rec, B. 22, P. 10). Mr. Dwelley says of Benjamin 3d "He built this house in 1729 and with his descendants occupied it for two generations."

This Benjamin 3d a brother of Matthew and Abijah, was four times chosen selectman of Hanover, and six times moderator at the town meeting.

To return to the account book. In 1760 when Matthew Stetson was 70 years of age, he surrendered his account book to his oldest son Matthew Jr. The 2nd Matthew's first account begins thus: "Jenewarey the 10th 1761" and is an extended account of the ironwork of a vessel built for Seth Stetson. The name of the vessel, or yard where it was built is not given, presumably at the Bald Hill yard. This Seth has a very numerous posterity who will be interested to learn that their ancestor was a ship-builder on North River in 1760.

Matthew married Mary (Winslow) Randall, a descendant of Kenelin Winslow, brother of the governor, and of the Job Randalls who built ships at the "Chittenden yard" in 1690 (Briggs) and later at "Job's Landing" across the river.

I would like to tell of Matthew's courtship by moonlight on the river, of his frequent trips to Job's Landing in his canoe to see Mary, how he dreamed of her all day at the forge as he swung the sledge and worked the wheezy bellows, but, alas! all this we are obliged to omit for lack of data.

This 2nd Matthew was very original. He, no doubt spelled words just as he pronounced them, but his accounts are hardly what we would expect from a son of the "Village Schoolmaster." In July 1786 he charges "William Copelin" 15 shillings for "won peck of ounyons, and for my hors to hanover meten hous in the shey" but the climax is reached in 1778, when he credits "thomas Bastow" with "too quarts of Room and won jeal."

Mr. Barry tells of traditions, that this Matthew was "Minute

Man'' in the Revolution, also that he was at the taking of Louisburg in 1745, when a mere boy. The first is easily proven by recently published records, which mention periods of service in three different companies. Probably the second will also prove true if the records are extant, and if so it will perhaps atone in a measure for the crudeness of Matthew's accounts. So we will suppose him to have been bravely fighting for his country, when he should, perhaps, have been busy with his father in the old log (?) schoolhouse.

Captain Thomas Stetson, known by everyone as "Cap'n Tom"—a son of Matthew 2nd, was the next to inherit the old farm at Bald Hills, with the old account book. He continued the accounts in a fine hand and business like manner from 1798 as long as he lived. There are several very old people still living who distinctly remember him, although he has been dead 72 years. They all speak of him as a dignified man who weighed his words, and spoke deliberately, who visited "Uncle Ephraim's" tavern at the Four Corners occasionally (?) and who, although in his later days in "straightened" circumstances, yet managed to keep up a show of (shabby?) gentility.

His accounts show him to have been a man much above the ordinary. Tradition tells of voyages he made when a very young man as mate and navigator for Captain Dunham of Scituate Harbor (an adventurer but not a navigator) who made a fortune smuggling arms into the ports of southern Europe, then at war.

Among the papers of Cap'n Tom I find these fragments of an old log, which may be interesting in this connection. At the top of the page is the date, Thursday April 14th 1796. (Fig. 17). I also find a passport bearing the *seal* and *signature* of John Quincy Adams, U. S. Minister to the Hague, dated 1796, and made out to Thomas Stetson. These and other similar papers would seem to credit these traditions.

In 1801 Capt. Thomas Stetson became enamoured of a rosy-cheeked young taloress living in the family of Captain Silas Morton, a merchant who then occupied the "Matthew Stetson House" (Fig. 2) at Hanover Four Corners. The following year they

Winds	Remarks
E S E	<i>Saturday June 25th 1795</i> This 24 hours Commences with Gentle Gales and Clouds at 6 P.M. set Steersails
Souds	Remarks
<i>Wes.</i> <i>SS</i>	<i>Journal of A Voyage from</i> <i>Haue de grace to Lisbon</i> <i>in the Brig Pacifica</i> <i>of Boston.</i> <i>Departure taken from</i> <i>the Island of Alderney</i> <i>in Lat. of 49 48 N</i> <i>Long of - - - 2 12 W</i>
Depart.	
34	Kept by Thomas Peterson

Fig. 17. From an Old Log.

were married by the Rector of St. Andrew's Church, of which she was a member. St. Andrews was then located on the top of Church Hill.

It is related of "Grandma Stetson" that many years afterwards, when on a fishing trip down the North River with her boys, they were overtaken by a violent tempest and forced to seek shelter in a cottage on the cliff, which also gave shelter to a Methodist Minister. A prayer-meeting was held during the storm, "Grandma Stetson" was "converted" and was ever afterwards an enthusiastic Methodist, becoming one of the founders of the Church at Church Hill. Each of her six sons inherited the red cheeks and religious enthusiasm of their mother together with the slow deliberate speech, and dignified manner of their father. An obituary fitting for one of the six would have been true of them all.

Now as to the later descendants of Captain Benjamin. I have never heard that any of them had done anything very remarkable, certainly those of us who remained on a part of the Cornet's original farm, have not. Am afraid we shall not be able to find such an illustrious company as Cousin Isaiah found among the descendants of Joseph, however, it is recorded that many of the descendants of Benjamin together with their families removed from Scituate previous to the Revolution, to parts unknown. Let us hope that when our new History and Genealogy is ready for us, these lost tribes will have been found and that with them we shall find some remarkable ones who will have done credit to their worthy ancestor Captain Benjamin.

NELSON M. STETSON,

August 19, 1911.

Abington, Mass.

NOTE.—We frequently hear it said that Cornet Robert was the only Stetson who ever came to America. The following is taken from "Pope's Pioneers"

"William Stetson, yeoman, was a proprietor in Boston in 1637. Removed to Charlestown. Was a Deacon, and *had accounts with persons in Bristol, Eng.* Had no children of his own. Married first Widow Elizabeth Harris. Married second Widow Mary Hill. His will probated in 1692 bequeathed to sons and daugh-

ters of his first and second wife, and to "Sarah Johnson who now dwells with me"—"Negro Sambo shall have his freedom."

It is elsewhere stated that Deacon William Stetson was several times chosen Representative to the General Court, that he together with Major Sedgwick, built the first mills in Charlestown, and was one of the trustees named in the marriage settlement of Martha Coytmore when she married Gov. Winthrop.

There is a striking analogy between the lives of these two contemporaries Dea. William, in the Massachusetts, and Cornet Robert, in the Plymouth colony, which may furnish us with a clue in looking up our English origin.

From the same source I find that "Thomas Hiland of Scituate, Town Officer, Jurymen, and one of the 'Men of Kent' in his will dated Feb. 1682 *bequeathed to his grandson Joseph Stetson.*" This must have been the Cornet's grandson, and if so, the Cornet's oldest son Joseph, married Thomas Hiland's daughter, (Ruth?).

Thomas Hiland had a daughter Ruth, whom he does not mention in his will. Joseph Stetson 1st in his will dated 1722 speaks of his wife as Prudence—? Did Ruth die soon after the birth of Joseph?

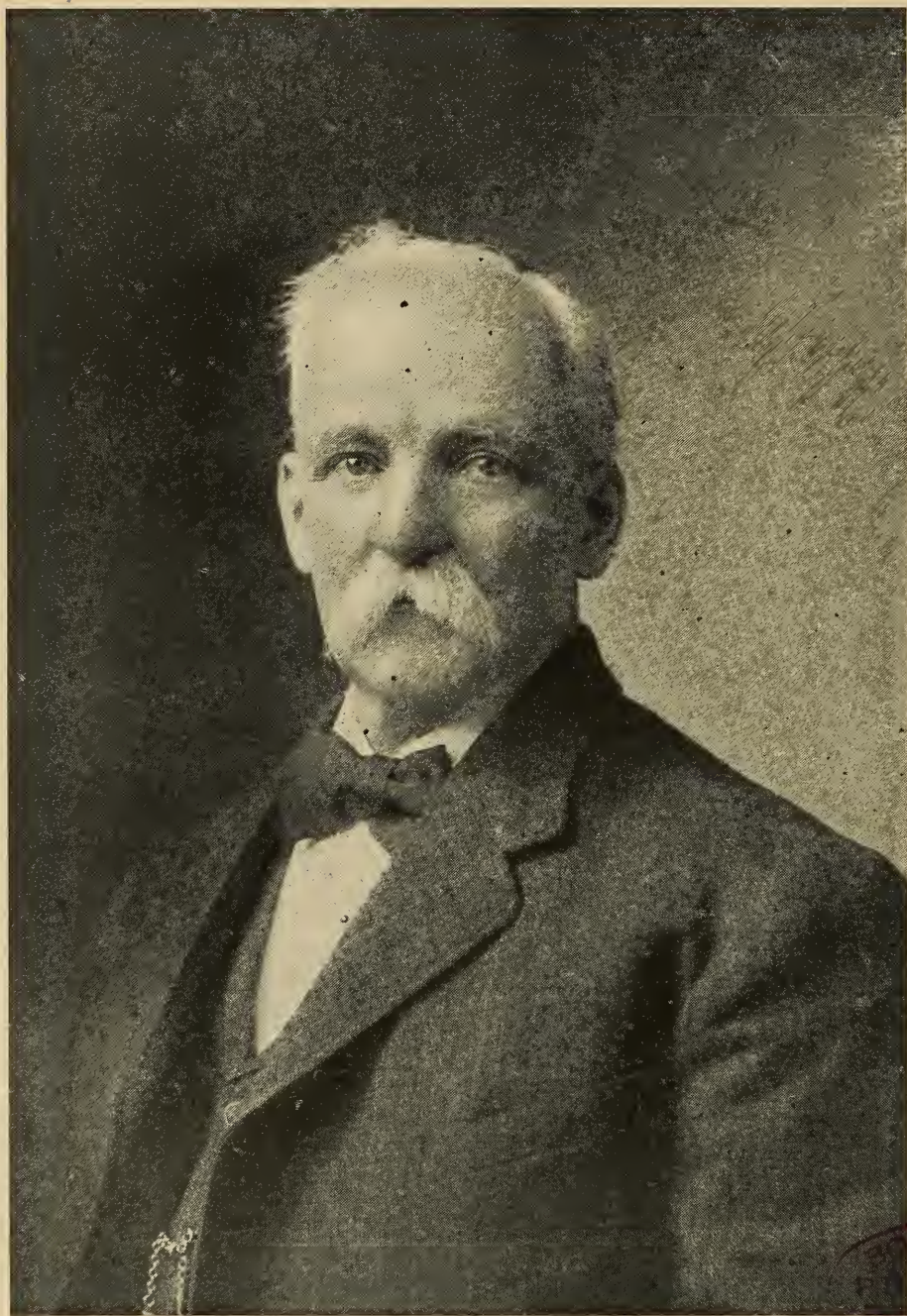
We notice that 3 years and 6 months elapsed between the *baptism* of Joseph and the *birth* of the second child Robert, also that Joseph 2nd—the supposed legatee—named his first child Ruth. Thomas Hiland mentions no other grandchild named Stetson in his will.

Thomas Hiland's farm in 1633 was principally at the 4th Cliff by the ocean near the mouth of North River, but he had a house on Kent Street, and was later one of the Conihasset partners.

N. M. S.



ISAIAH K. STETSON
Bangor, Maine
A Director
One of the youngest ship builders



G. W. STETSON
Medford, Mass.
Sec'y-Treas.

THE STETSONS AND THE SHIP BUILDING INDUSTRY.

Rev. A. R. Baker, in a sermon preached in Medford, Mass, in 1846 on

THE ARK, SHIPS AND SHIP BUILDING,

spoke of the Ark as the first vessel built. Continuing he said:—
 “It is pronounced incredible that Noah should be able to construct so large a vessel. But others have been built of equal and even greater dimensions. “Ptolemy Philopater, urged by a vain-glorious desire of exceeding all the world besides in naval architecture, is said to have enlarged the number of banks of oars in the ancient galley to forty; and the vessel which he built being otherwise in equal proportion, was thus raised to such an enormous bulk, that she appeared at a distance like a floating mountain or island; and upon a nearer view, like a prodigious castle on the ocean. She was 280 cubits long, 38 cubits broad, and 48 cubits high (each cubit being an English foot and five and one-half inches) and carried 400 rowers, 400 sailors and 3000 soldiers. Another which the same prince made to sail on the Nile, we are told, was half a stadium or 440 feet long, yet these were nothing in comparison with Hiero’s ship, built under the direction of Archimides, on the structure of which Moschion wrote a whole volume.” Dr. Baker then drew a beautiful word picture of this ship and said:—
 “Here are three vessels, one about the size of the ark, and two much larger, built on the shores of the Nile and at Syracuse, more than 200 years before the commencement of the Christian Era.”

“An historian of undoubted authority also tells us, that in the beginning of the 17th century one Peter Hans, of Horne, had two ships built after the model and proportions of the ark.” On carefully reading the sermon from which the above lines are quoted we find that the builders of these vessels were ridiculed. We note that no names of the builders of any of the above vessels are given, that a question was raised by whose skill and handicraft the work was accomplished. In the absence of records to give this data, *why*, I ask is

it not possible that a *Stetson* was the man, to whose genius is due the fact that these vessels became realities?

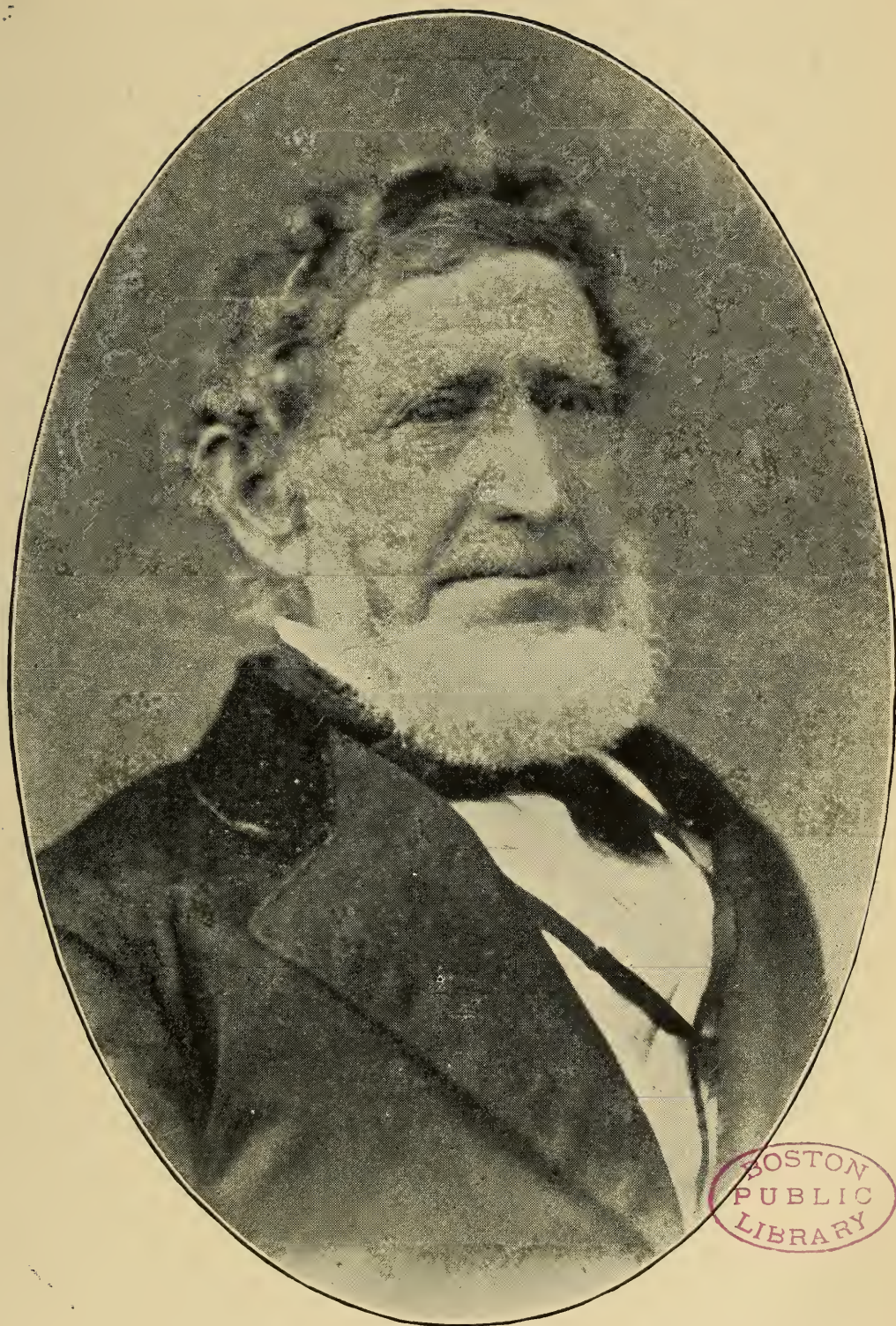
Just when the Stetsons began to be interested in the art of ship building I have not been able to ascertain, but in my research for data, I find in the history of Plymouth Co. published in 1884, under the historical sketch of the town of Kingston, this record—“There was a building yard on what is now Mill Creek rear Drew & Co’s works, where Caleb Stetson had a building yard previous to 1714.”

Much enquiry for information as to this Caleb Stetson, by mail and otherwise, has failed to bring further data. This data is however the earliest one I have been able to ascertain that any Stetson built a vessel.

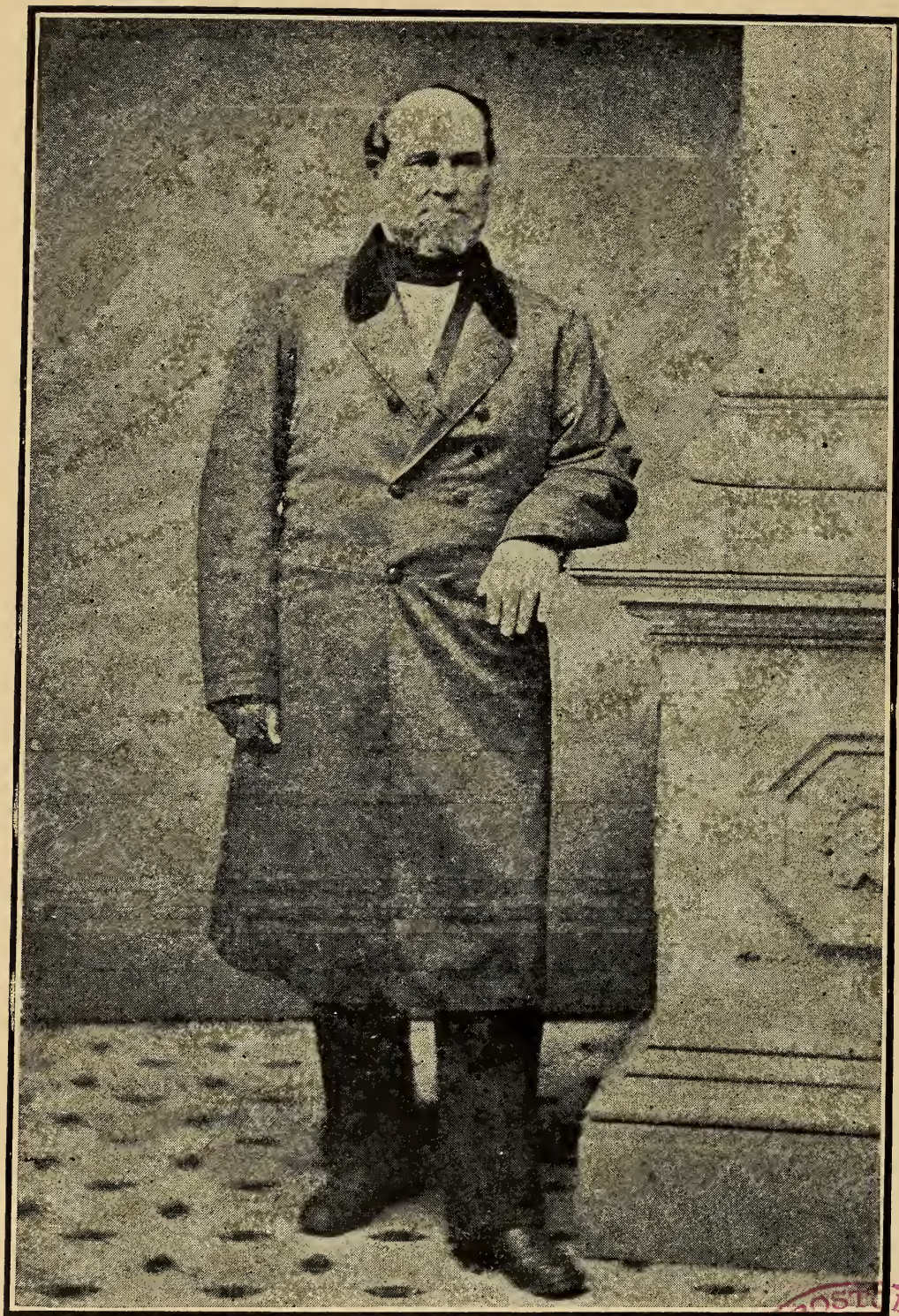
Deacon Joseph Stetson, son of Micah Stetson, of Scituate, learned his trade of his father. He began building ships at Camden, Me. in 1818, having purchased the yard of his brother-in-law, Noah Brooks, for whom he and his brothers had been working.

After a little, the three brothers returned to Boston, reaching there about the time that the call came from Lake Champlain for ship carpenters. Deacon Joseph and his brother Alpheus, shouldered their broadaxes and walked from Boston to Lake Champlain where they went to work and assisted in building Perry’s fleet. On the completion of this work the two returned to Boston on foot. Deacon Stetson built 70 vessels all from his own models, (the names of these vessels and other Stetson records were destroyed by fire in Camden in 1893). In the early part of Deacon Stetson’s connection with shipbuilding, he built largely, schooners and brigs for coastwise trade with the West Indies. This was followed by larger vessels for European trade. During the later years of his business life he built no ships in his own yard, but superintended the building of ships of a large tonnage in neighboring towns for the East India and Australian trade.

At that stage of ship building when fast sailing vessels were first being called for, he modelled and built a clipper which received great praise in New York shipping circles, and he was given a handsome present from the New York owners.



DEACON JOTHAM STETSON
An old time ship builder.



DEACON WILLIAM STETSON
An old time ship builder



In the early fifties he built several passenger packets which plied between Boston and the Azores. He superintended his last vessel, the bark "Welkins" in 1852. He died in 1872, aged 80.

Alpheus Stetson, who I have said walked from Boston to Lake Champlain was, I am told, a successful ship builder in South Boston, but up to this time I have failed to get other information.

Deacon Jotham Stetson was born Nov. 17, 1794. In 1822 he moved to Medford, Mass. where he soon opened a ship yard and built some fine ships of goodly proportions, 32 in number. I have heard it stated that he built the first ship that carried missionaries to the Sandwich Islands. A few years ago several record books and valuable papers containing all the data of Mr. Stetson's ship building career were consigned to a dump heap and burned. It is unfortunate that this occurred and it would not have happened had a second thought been given the matter by the party who had it done. We hope later to be able to give the list of vessels with their tonnage and the year they were built in printed form.

We can only relate an interesting anecdote or two connected with the good deacon who was a staunch temperance advocate to whom is due the credit of launching the first vessel without the usual flow of rum that was deemed so necessary on such an occasion. Deacon Stetson was a member of Gov. Brooks hand engine No. 1 of Medford and was never absent from the regular monthly tryout of the tub. He seldom staid to the supper after the payout, but on one occasion he was prevailed upon to do so, and as the steward was naming the man to take the company's pitcher across the street to get it filled with rum at the distillery, the wag of the company and the greatest drinker of the ardent, stayed the proceeding as his deep sounding voice said—"Mr. Foreman, I move you sir, that Gov. Brooks Engine Co., sell its rum pitcher at auction here and now." The good deacon at once rose and seconded the motion—meanwhile great consternation was manifest among the membership of the company. This was however, quickly quieted by a few hurried whispers and the motion was carried by an unanimous vote. So elated was the good deacon that he hastened through the doorway, forgetting in his joy,

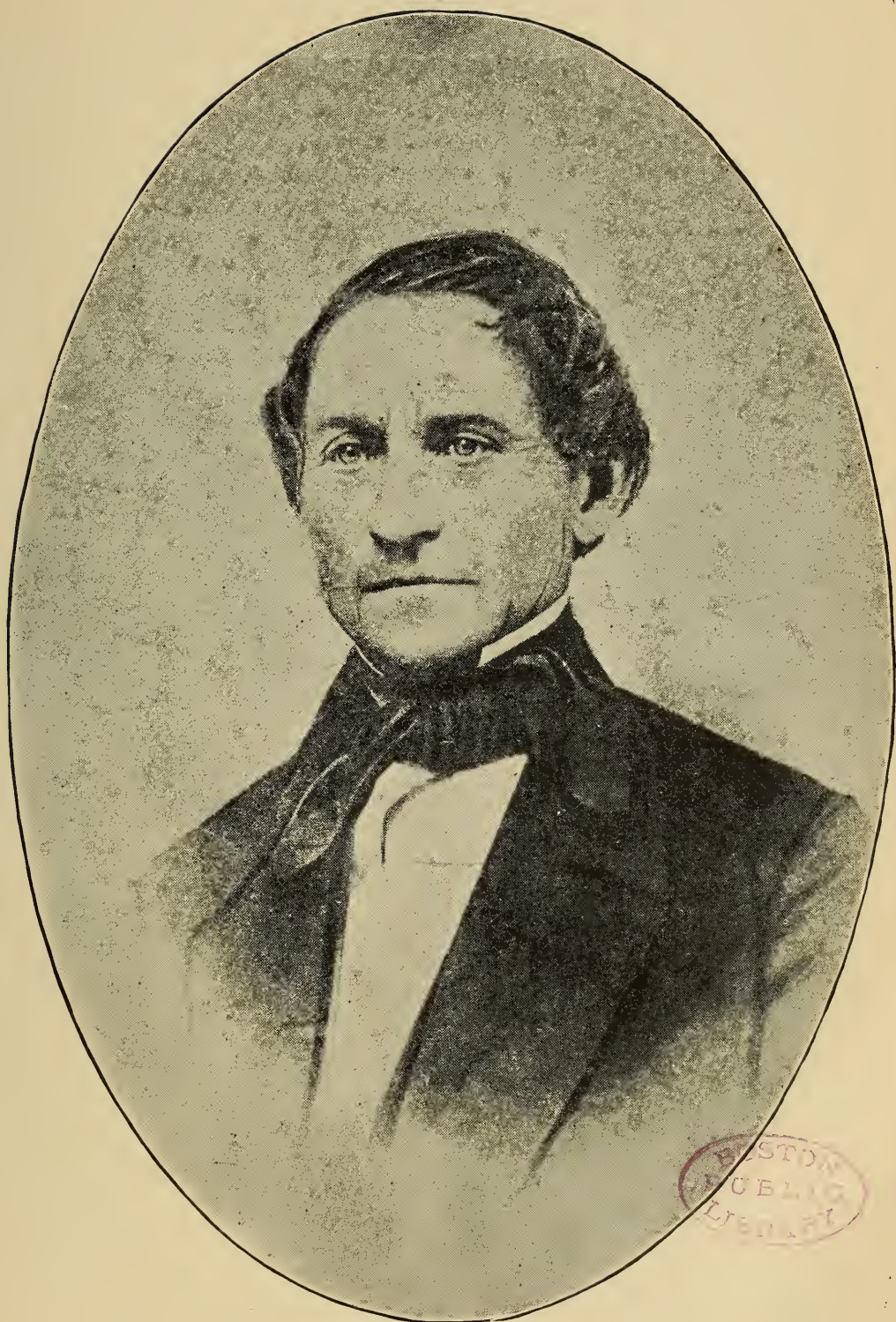
his hat, and with quickened steps he made for the market-place to proclaim the good news of the reform that had taken place in the ranks of the engine company. He had hastened too soon, for, as the flying coat tails of Deacon Stetson were passing through the door, the same sonorous voice was heard to say, "Mr. Foreman, I move you sir, that a committee of one, to consist of the steward, be appointed to take the proceeds from the sale of the pitcher and go to the store in the market-place and purchase a *larger pitcher* to take the place of the one just sold, that on his way back he get it filled with our favorite beverage."

This motion, like the other, was passed unanimously, and while the deacon was telling his story his fellow fire fighters were drinking to his health.

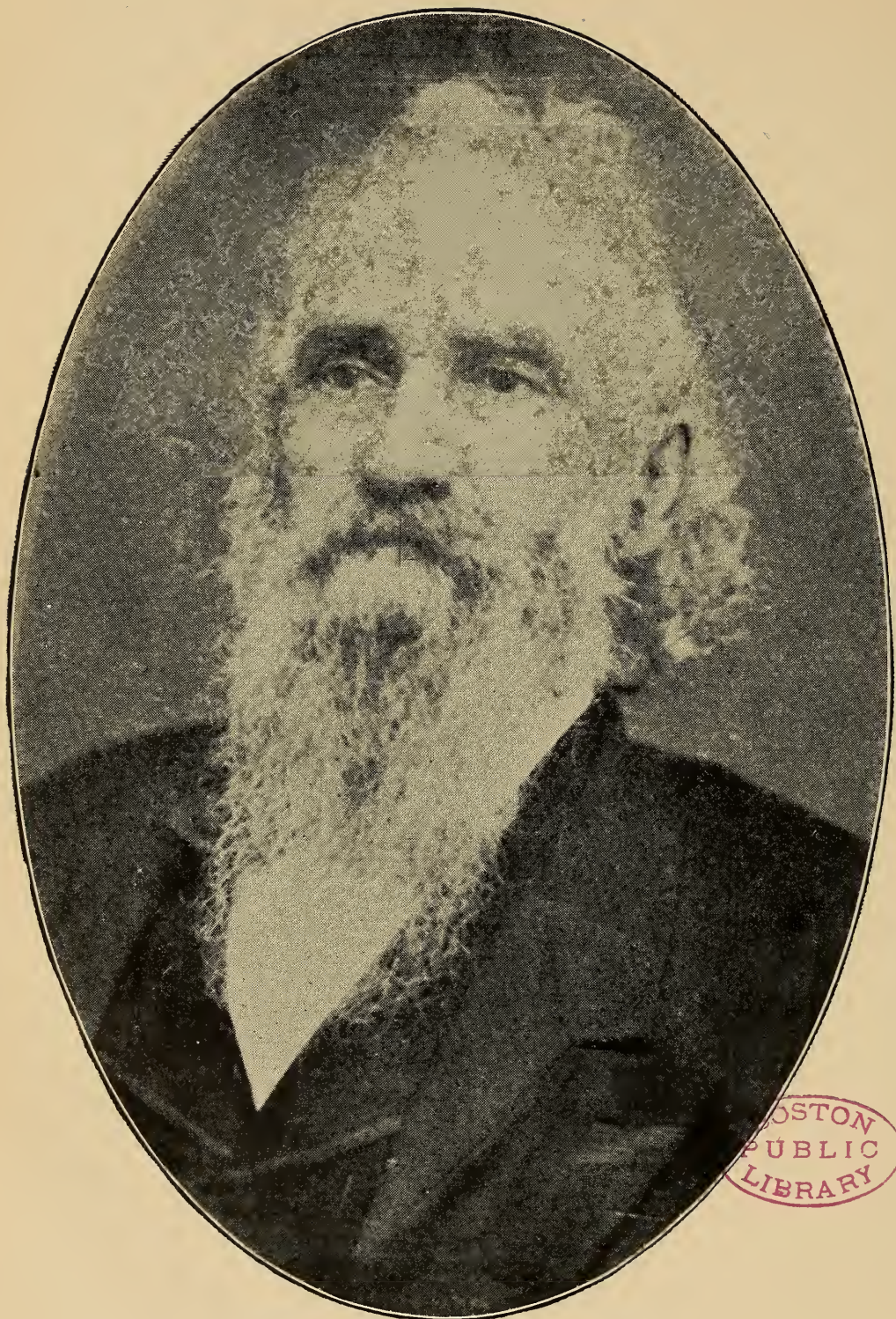
Deacon Stetson was somewhat accustomed to play upon words. One day as he was showing a vessel he was building, to a stranger, some wedges fell pretty close to the deacon's head. Slanting his head to one side and glancing up toward the deck through the hatchway, he said in a clear tone of voice "I am glad to see that *wages* (wedges) are falling. The workmen on the deck dropped no more wedges into the hold, fearing that their employer's words foretold a reduction in their pay. He built over 30 vessels. He died April 14, 1876.

William Stetson was born in Robinston, Washington Co., Me. on the banks of the St. Croix river; entering the ship yard as an apprentice at the age of 16, he rapidly rose. He learned the trade in the yards of his native town, Eastport and across the line in New Brunswick. He went to Thomaston, Me. with his tool chest and a thorough knowledge of the ship building industry in 1837, and the vigor of his brain and hands made him a commanding presence in Thomaston and in a very few years he entered into the business of getting out frames in the southern states. He supplied the yards of Maine with scores of frames, all fitted and ready to be set up on their arrival at the building yards. Mr. Stetson built, and superintended the building, of eleven large ships and a like number of smaller vessels all of his own drafting. He died July 7, 1878.

Elisha Stetson the youngest of eight children of Micah and



ELISHA STETSON
An old time ship builder



BOSTON
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ABNER STETSON
An old time ship builder.

Sarah (Copeland) Stetson was born in South Scituate, May 8, 1799. He left the old fireside when a young man apprenticing himself to his brother Alpheus in South Boston, to learn the ship joiners trade. In 1825 he moved to Medford, starting in business for himself as a ship joiner. He was very closely identified with the ship building industry all his life, being the greater part of the time a moulder or designer. He was twice burned out, once in Medford and once in East Boston, both fires destroyed all his tools as well as work on hand. With the courage characteristic of the Stetsons, he started again continuing in active business as long as the industry flourished in Medford. He died Feb. 16, 1869.

Abner Stetson was born in Newcastle, Me., Jan. 26, 1800. A few years after his birth his parents moved to Nobleboro, where he was brought up on the home farm where he remained until he became of age, his father refusing to give him his time.

At 21 years of age, he left home taking all of his belongings on a stick over his shoulder, making his way to one of the little coast towns in Nova Scotia. Here he learned the trade of ship carpenter and builder. He then returned to Nobleboro, now Damariscotta, and worked in the ship yards there. About the year 1830, he started building for himself and built between 20 and 30 ships. The custom records were destroyed by fire in 1845 so that a complete list is not possible to obtain. Mr. Stetson retired from active business about 1862 or 63. During the civil war the rebels sunk one ship of which he was half owner, his share valued at \$30,000. He was considered the most successful ship builder in that section of Maine and for many years was the wealthiest citizen in the community in which he resided. It may be of interest to us to know that Mr. Andrew Carnegie was brought to this country, an infant, in the staunch ship Wiscasset built by Mr. Stetson. He died Nov. 4, 1878.

I have been unable to obtain any data of Micah Stetson, other than that he was a ship builder and that his sons learned their trade of him.

There is on record at the registry of deeds at Plymouth a lease from Matthew Stetson to Ebenezer Stetson of a part of his

farm including the ship yard at Bald Hill in which appears a clause "permitting the said Ebenezer Stetson to build vessels in the ship yard." The lease bears the date of 1747. It is therefore to be inferred that the vessels built by him, his son, Snow Stetson and grandson Seth Stetson were all built at Bald Hill. That vessels were built at this yard is substantiated by the account book kept by Matthew Stetson from which I quote the following items:—

"October 1748" (1) "To my oxen to cart load of plank from Nash's yard to Bald Hill yard and my boy to load them 00£ 06s 00d"

(2) "To my boy and oxen to fix to launch 06s."

(3) "To my oxen to draw back crossways 05s."

"Oct. 10, 1748." (1) "To my oxen to raise masts 06s."

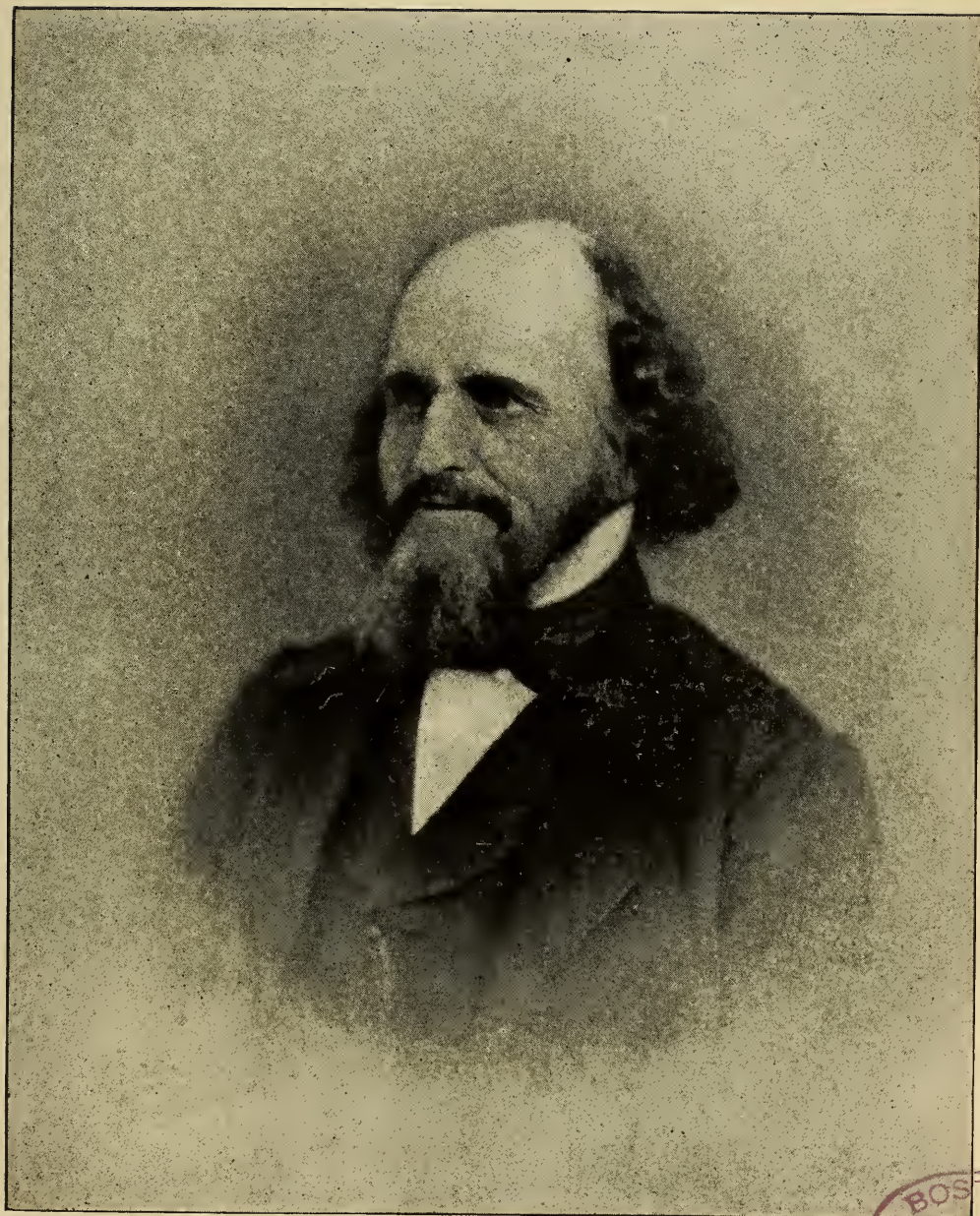
(2) "To Matthew to raft plank from Bald Hill to Nash's 10s."

Matthew Stetson (this is son of the above named Matthew) in account with Seth Stetson. "Janewarey the 10th 1761." "To doing a iron work for Seth Stetson." Then follows a very long list of items.

John Stetson, son of Sergeant Samuel, 4th son of the Cornet, bought the Wanton estate in 1730. This included the Wanton shipyard and here he built several ships as also did his son Samuel. No further data is obtainable.

In 1880, *Edward and Isaiah K. Stetson* both members of the Kindred, the latter, a member of the board of directors, formed a partnership under the firm name of E. & I. K. Stetson and built in their shipyard at Bangor, Me., ten vessels. They sold their shipyard in 1906.

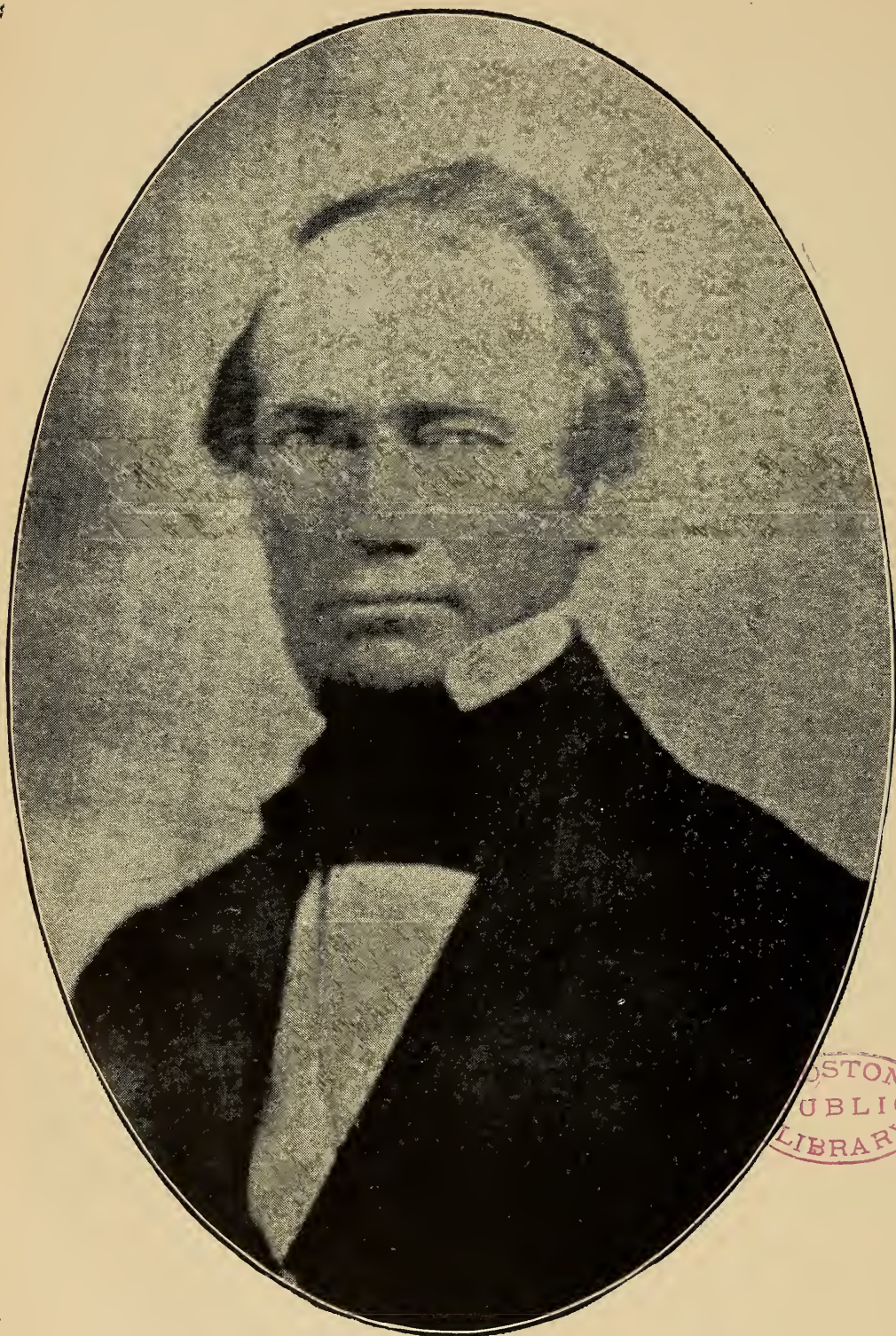
Galen James was born in Scituate in 1790 and descended from Cornet Robert Stetson through Eunice Stetson, daughter of Benjamin, son of Benjamin. He came of a long line of ship-builders and learned his trade of his father. He went to Medford before he became of age and worked in the yard of Thatcher Magoun. Later he worked in the yard at Milton and then in several other towns where his father had taken contracts. He again went to Medford and in 1816 formed a partnership with Isaac Sprague, hired land on the banks of the Mystic river and began to build



DEACON GALEN JAMES

An old time ship builder.





DEACON ROBERT L. ELLS
An old time ship builder.

ships. A year later they purchased the land. They built 63 vessels. Mr. James died April 14, 1879.

Robert L. Ells, the oldest son of Edward Eells and Sarah, daughter of Micah Stetson and Sarah Copeland was born in Medford, Nov. 22, 1808. He learned the ship joiner's trade, and for those years that his native town was noted for her ships, he worked on them, first, as journeyman and then as contractor, employing as many as fifteen men at times. Later he was a foreman at the Navy Yard, Charlestown. During the civil war he was superintendent of building ironclad war vessels at New Albany, Indiana and Cincinnati, Ohio. At the close of the war he was made inspector of timber at the Charlestown Navy Yard. He died Sept. 6, 1883.

Without doubt there were other Stetsons connected with this industry, as builders of vessels, but of them I have no knowledge. I have however definite knowledge that there were Stetsons by the hundreds, who were skilled mechanics, masters of their trade, all of whom found ready places at the highest wages of the day. It was to these artesans that the success is largely due, which attended those to whom I have referred more at length as the builders of ships. *One of these skilful mechanics, and I think the only living, lineal descendant of Cornet Robert, who followed this line of work, is present today.

August 19, 1911.

GEORGE W. STETSON.

*NOTE.—He died a few months after this reunion.

VESSELS BUILT BY STETSONS.

The following list gives Names of Vessels built by the Stetsons,
the Year same were built, the Class of Vessel and the
Tonnage as far as can be ascertained to date.

Year	Class	Name	Tonnage
ABNER STETSON			
1832	Brig	Everett	
1833	Ship	Galen	
1834	"	St. James	
"	"	Creighton	
1838	"	Camera	
1841	Bark	Mindora	
1845	Ship	Amulet	
1846	"	Susan	
1847	"	Seth Sprague	
"	"	Martha J. Ward	
1848	"	Delaware	
1849	"	William Wirt	
"	Schooner	Damariscove	
1850	Bark	Utah	
1851	Ship	Southampton	
1852	"	Western Empire	
1853	"	Alleghanian	
1854	Brig	Adaline Sprague	
1856	Ship	Abner Stetson	
1860	"	Arthur Child	
1862	"	E. W. Stetson	
1865	"	J. H. Stetson	
1877	Sloop	Leader	

The above list is not complete as the custom records were destroyed
by fire in 1845. It is however known that Mr. Stetson
built the list above given.

JOTHAM STETSON

1833	Bark	Ruble	300
1834	Ship	Nantasket	461
"	"	Franconia	510
1835	Bark	Gulnare	287
"	Ship	William Goddard	556
"	"	Mercury	368
1836	Bark	Frederick Warren	383
"	Ship	Rajah	555
1837	"	Star	592
"	Bark	Madonna	258
"	Ship	Zenobia	641
1838	"	Stephen Phillips	351
1839	"	Damascus	706
1840	"	Loochoo	655
1841	"	Probus	656
"	"	Cairo	256
1842	"	Laura	694
1843	"	Lapland	574
1844	Bark	Azoff	310
1845	Ship	Corsair	325
"	"	Faneuil Hall	578
1846	"	George H. Hopley	590
1847	"	Georgia	665
"	Brig	Frank	160
1848	Ship	Living Age	758
1849	"	Magellan	589
"	"	George Green	886
1850	"	Prospero	682
"	"	Sachem	743
1851	"	Coringa	737
1852	"	Champion	1061
1853	"	Sea Flower	1061

GALEN JAMES, SPRAGUE & JAMES

1816	Brig	Boccar Tigris	180
------	------	---------------	-----

1817	Schooner	Ant	40
"	Brig	Luscan	207
1818	"	Archer	261
"	"	Palmer	277
1819	Sloop	Truth	36
1820	Steamer	Gen'l Pinckney	90
"	Ship	Rosselass	300
1821	"	Champion	220
1822	"	Israel	355
"	"	Lucilla	369
1823	"	Hannabel	317
"	Brig	Grecian	244
1824	Ship	Eleanor	301
"	Brig	Virginia	166
"	"	Griffin	177
"	"	South Carolina (R'd)	100
1825	"	Pilgrim	179
"	"	Ivanhoe	182
"	Ship	Shepherdess	272
"	"	Eugene	302
1826	Brig	Apthup	242
"	Ship	Martha	214
1827	Brig	Beta	253
"	Ship	William Gray	299
"	"	London	368
"	Brig	Sappho (R'd)	100
1828	Ship	Paris	360
"	Brig	Lucilla	287
"	Ship	Louisa	325
1829	"	Gibralta	298
1830	"	Lintin	330
"	"	Homer	243
1831	"	Groton	360
"	"	Marengo	440
"	"	Florence	307
1832	"	Tiber	316

1832	Ship	Dalmatia	378
"	"	Mozart	447
"	Bark	Tartar	338
"	"	Susquehannah	207
1833	Ship	Victoria	425
"	"	Unicorn	424
"	"	Austerlitz	415
"	"	Herald	455
1834	"	Argo	469
"	"	Aguetnett	342
"	"	Eli Whitney	548
1835	"	Rubicon	489
"	"	Elizabeth Bruce	586
1836	"	Bombay	482
"	Brig	Theodore	156
"	Ship	Adrian	588
1837	"	Dalmation (R'd)	100
"	"	Severn	578
1838	"	Clifton	617
"	"	Palmyra	635
"	"	James H. Shepherd	635
1839	"	Norway	651
1840	"	E. N. Train	644
"	"	Merlin	297
"	"	Oceana	631
1841	"	Soldan	661
"	Schooner	Ariel	92
"	Steamer	East Boston	269
1842	Bark	Altorf	263

In 1838 the schooner Outsesie, 99 tons was built by Abner Stetson, Joshua Stetson et als.

Ebenezer Stetson built a ship in 1748, a schooner in 1749 and a brigantine, "William Clift" the same year.

Snow Stetson built the schooner "Industry" 42 tons, in 1785. He was appointed Inspector of Vessels for the district of Hanover, Scituate, Pembroke and Marshfield prior to 1693.

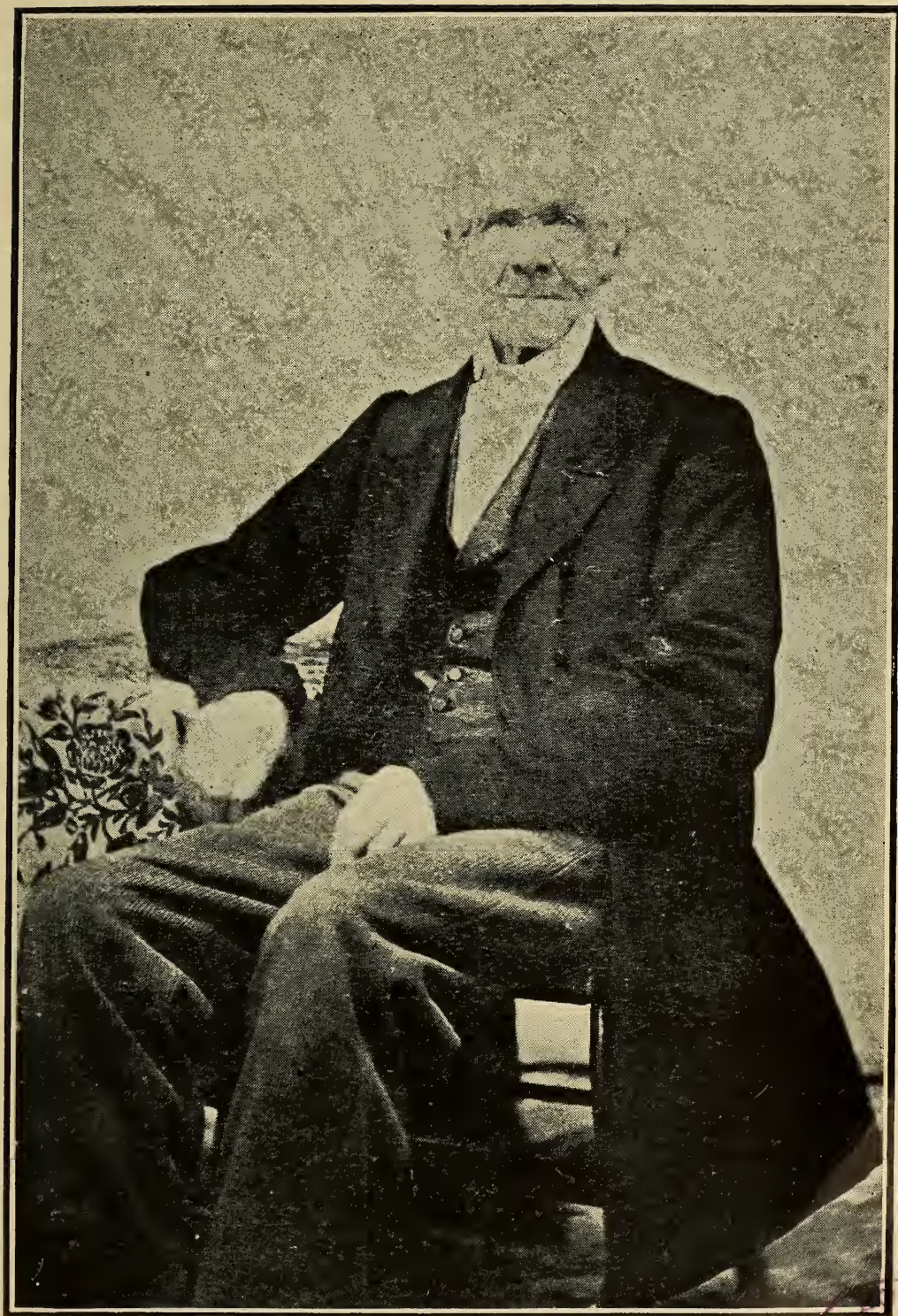
BY EDWARD AND ISAIAH K. STETSON

1882	Schooner	Isaiah K. Stetson	313
1883	"	Edward Stewart	398
1884	"	Henry Crosby	412
1885	"	Louise Hastings	123
1887	Bark'tine	Thomas J. Stewart	840
1889	Schooner	Gertrude A. Bartlett	375
1902	"	Samuel W. Hathaway	1038
1903	"	Horace A. Stone	1376
1904	"	Augustus H. Babcock	1589
1905	"	Augusta W. Snow	830

There is on record in the Registry of Deeds at Plymouth a lease of the yard at Bald Hills by Matthew Stetson to Ebenezer Stetson and he and Snow Stetson are said to have built several vessels here. In 1748, they built a ship for George Stetson. In 1749, a schooner for Capt. Jonathan Tilden, and the brigantine, "William Clift."

Snow Stetson built the schooner, "Hope" 38 tons in 1783. In 1785 he built the schooner, "Industry" 42 tons. In 1786 he built the schooner "Sally" 54 tons. In 1787 the schooner "America" 47 tons.

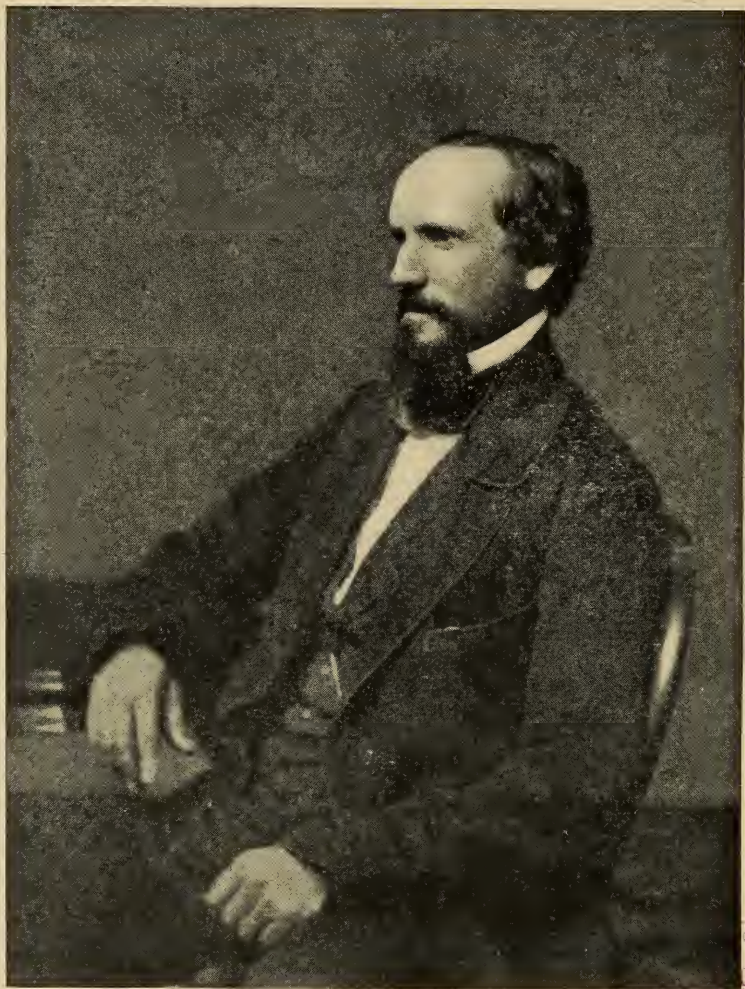
The schooner "Bachelder" was built at the Wanton yard in 1794 by John Stetson. (See page 221 "Ship Building on North River").



DEACON JOSEPH STETSON

An old time ship builder





JOHN STETSON BARRY

Compiler of the Records of the Stetson Family

1847



CAN ANYONE TELL?

In a writing given one of the Kindred, by her grandfather while she was in her teens, it is stated that Cornet Robert came from Scotland. In the history of the Delano family Major Delano, now deceased, stated in several allusions to the Stetson family that the Cornet came from Scotland. In a history of the "Founders and early settlers of the Oranges" it is stated that Cornet Robert came from Scotland.

Can any one authoritatively say that Cornet Robert came from Scotland?

Can any one tell us who was his first wife and the mother of his children?

The surname of Prudence—— who married Joseph, the oldest son of the Cornet.

The given name of ——Ford who married Lois the daughter of Joseph.

The surname of Elizabeth—— the first wife of Samuel son of Joseph.

The given name of ——Vinal and of ——Woodworth who married Mary, daughter of Anthony, son of Robert, son of Joseph.

The surname of Mary—— who married Joshua, son of Samuel, son of Joseph.

The given name of ——Bradburn who married Fanny, daughter of Benjamin, son of Anthony, son of Robert, son of Joseph.

The given name of ——Jackson and of ——White who married Betsy, daughter of Amos, son of Amos, son of Robert son of Joseph.

The given name of ——Thayer who married Phebe, daughter of Amos, son of Amos, son of Robert, son of Joseph.

The given name of —Adams who married Lydia, daughter of Joshua, son of Abner, son of Samuel, son of Joseph.

Whom John, son of John, son of Joseph married. He is said to have left children in Foxcroft, Me.

The given name of —Wilson who married Azuba, daughter of Ezra, son of Ezra, son of Anthony, son of Robert, son of Joseph.

The given name of —Warner who married Racheal, daughter of Gideon, son of John, son of Amos, son of Robert, son of Joseph.

The given name of —Hawley who married Sally, daughter of Gideon, son of John, son of Amos, son of Robert, son of Joseph.

The given name of —Allen, a lawyer of Richmond, Va. who married Mary Ann, daughter of Benjamin, son of Benjamin, son of Amos, son of Robert, son of Joseph.

Anything about Joshua, son of George, son of George, son of Samuel, son of Joseph. If he married? Whom, etc.

The surname of Lillis— of Hanover who married Benjamin son of Capt. Benjamin in 1725.

The surname of Margaret— who married James, son of James, son of Capt. Benjamin.

The surname of Abigail— who married William, son of James, son of Capt. Benjamin.

Anything about John, son of James, son of Capt. Benjamin.

The given name of —Moore who married Mary, daughter of Matthew, son of Matthew, son of Capt. Benjamin. (They lived in Whitefield, Me.)

Anything about Job, son of Benjamin, son of Benjamin, son of Capt. Benjamin, who married Hannah Munroe and went to Vermont. He is said to have left a family.

Anything about Adam, son of Abijah and Betsy Curtis, son of Abijah, son of Benjamin, son of Capt. Benjamin. He moved to N. Yarmouth, Me. and then to place unknown.

Names, etc. of children of Asenath, daughter of Elijah, son of Abijah, son of Benjamin, son of Capt. Benjamin, who married Barnabas Strout of Durham, Me.

The given name of —Anderson who married Lydia A. daughter of Gersham, son of Matthew, son of Matthew, son of Benjamin, son of Capt. Benjamin.

Anything about the descendants of Louisa T. daughter of Lebbeus, son of John, son of Abijah, son of Benjamin, son of Benjamin, son of Capt. Benjamin, who married Frederick T. Hooper. Mr. H. was in the dry goods business on Hanover St. Boston with Lebbeus Stetson Jr.

Anything of the children or grandchildren of Capt. Benjamin Stetson who moved to Maine and lived in the following towns and cities of that state:- Warren, Washington, Freeport, Durham, Newcastle, N. Yarmouth, Edgecomb, Whitefield, Waldoboro, Thomaston, Union, Brunswick.

The given name of —Burnett who married Sarah, daughter of Thomas, son of Cornet Robert.

Anything relative to Simeon, son of Thomas, son of Cornet Robert.

The given name of —Clapp who married Zilpa, daughter of Edenezar, son of Thomas, son of Cornet Robert.

Anything about Caleb (and his descendants) son of Gersham son of Thomas, son of Cornet Robert. He is said to have resided in Stoughton.

The given name of —Rice of Bollstown, N.Y. who married Lucy, daughter of John, son of Caleb, son of Gersham, son of Thomas, son of Cornet Robert.

The given name of —Sweet of Middlebury, N.Y. who mar-

ried Rachael, daughter of John, son of Caleb, son of Gersham, son of Thomas, son of Cornet Robert.

Anything about the descendants of the following persons:—
All descendants of Cornet Robert through his son Thomas who resided in the towns and cities of Maine.

James, son of Theophilus, son of Elisha, son of Elisha, son of Elisha, son of Thomas. He married three times and lived at Portland.

Lucy, daughter of Theophilus, son of Elisha, son of Elisha, who married Capt. S. Harding of Bath and lived in Berwick.

Mary G. daughter of Theophilus as above who married Jonathan Witherley in 1806 and lived in Dexter.

Nancy, daughter of Theophilus as above who married Hon. Bradford Harlow late mayor of Bangor.

Maria, daughter of Theophilus as above who married Noah Sparhawk of Bucksport.

Hannah, daughter of Ebenezar, who married Martin Lemand of Greene

Deborah, daughter of Ebenezar, who married Isaac Bonney of Turner.

Lydia, daughter of Ebenezar, who married William Walcott of Fayette.

Ruth, daughter of Thomas P. son of Theophilus, who married Jno. Shaw of Bath.

Oakman, son of Thomas P. the above, who married Harriet N. Sweetser of Cumberland.

Mary F. daughter of Thomas P. the above, who married David T. Stinson of Bath.

Job H. son of Samuel, son of Elisha, son of Elisha, son of Elisha, son of Thomas, who lived in Minot.

Eliza, daughter of Job H., who married James F. Davis of Danville.

Samuel, son of Job H., who married Valencia A. Chace of Hebron.

Joseph, son of Job H., who married Maria Browne and lived at Brunswick.

JOHN, SON OF CORNET ROBERT

Mr. Barry in his records of the family has nothing concerning John other than the clause in the will of the Cornet which reads as follows:-

“Item, I give and Bequeath to my Daughter in Law Abigail the Reliet and widow of my son John Deceast the Sume of ten pounds to be paid out of my movable estate.”

Also on page 91 of his book he, Mr. Barry, gives as children of John:

Abigail, May 1677. Married Benoni Studley, Dec. 22, 1701.

John, bap. May 4, 1679, d. 1730. Prob. Rec. Plym. 6, 405.

Honour, Mar. 1684. Married Thomas Hunt of Duxbury. Prob. Rec. 6, 405.

Barnabus, July 1688, d. Dec. 27, 1742.

Anne, Dec. 1690.

Mr. I. K. Stetson in his paper “The Stetsons of Maine” read before the Kindred, said:— “John had but one son and we have no record that he married, though he lived the allotted age of man.”

Can anyone give the surname of Abigail, wife of John and any information as to their sons John and Barnabas?

NOTE.—The record of the 2nd Church says Barnabas was baptized July 1682.

NOTE.—Only four children appear on the town records, John being the one left out. This latter note from private records of Mr. Barry.

ROBERT OF PEMBROKE

From private records of Mr. Barry gleaned after his book was published in 1847 we find that Isaac, son of Robert, married Elizabeth Pray of Marshfield and had these children.

Cornelius, b. Nov. 1708.

Nathaniel, b. Mar. 5, 1710.

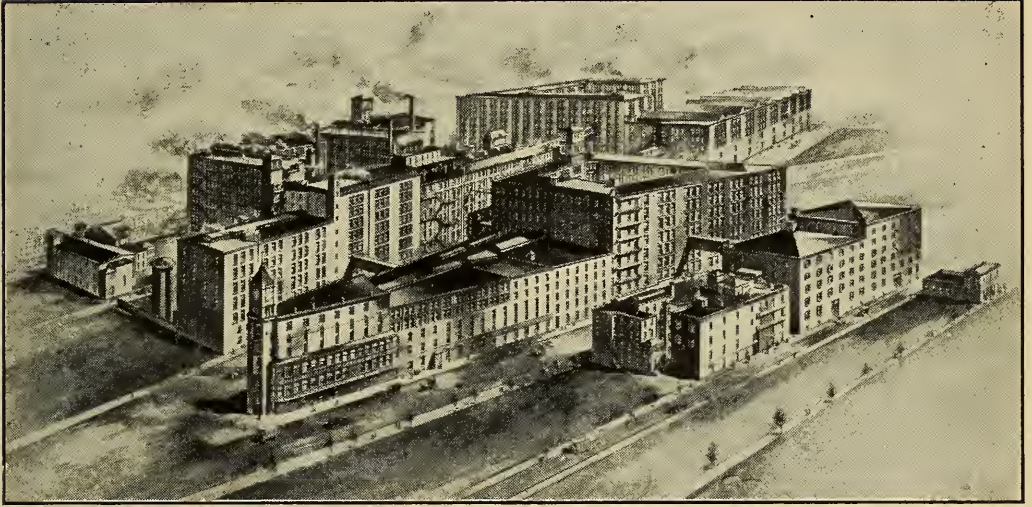
Jennett, b. Aug. 1711.

Jonathan, b. Sept. 1712.

Peleg, b. April 30, 1715.

Resolved, son of Robert married Abigail Crooker of Pembroke, Jan. 14, 1716 or 17.

STETSON HATS



FACTORY OF THE JOHN B. STETSON COMPANY, PHILADELPHIA

A FEW FACTS IN TABLOID REGARDING THE LARGEST HAT MANUFACTURING BUSINESS IN THE WORLD.

The business was founded by John B. Stetson in 1865, and incorporated under the name of John B. Stetson Company in 1891 with a capital of \$2,000,000 which has since been increased to \$8,000,000.

At present there are employed in round numbers, 5,400 people, who devote their entire time to the production of Stetson Hats, of these 4,000 are men and 1,400 women.

During the last year 11,500,000 skins were cut, and 700,000 pounds of fur actually converted into hats.

All of the silk ribbons used for bands and bindings are woven in our factory. We produce upwards of 6,000,000 yards annually, requiring over 40,000 pounds of raw silk.

820 tons of box board were required last year in making paper boxes.

During the year of 1911 we manufactured 3,336,000 hats, an average daily output of 11,000 hats.

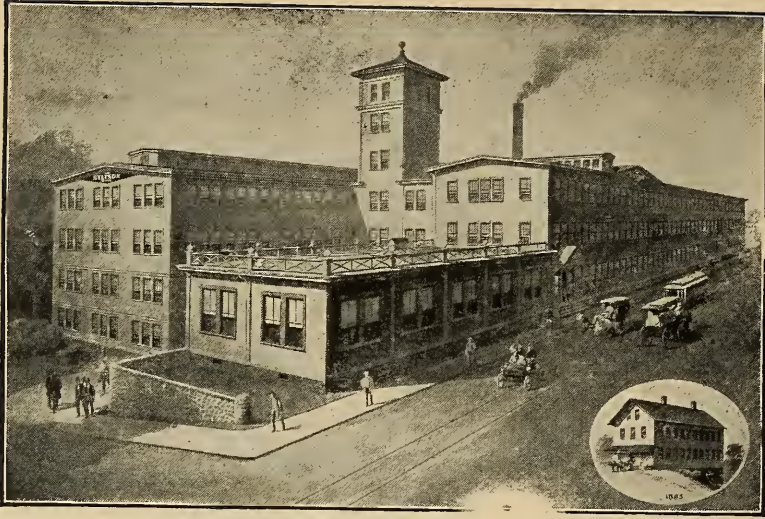
A remarkable feature of the Stetson business is the general and wide distribution of the product, the hats being sold throughout the world in every country in which hats are worn. No other trade-marked article of merchandise of which we know is so widely distributed.

Stetson hats are sold by one hundred and fifty wholesale merchants and more than ten thousand retail merchants. Of the latter, one thousand one hundred and twenty-four are in foreign countries.

The largest foreign markets for Stetson hats are Argentina Republic, Mexico, Canada, South Africa, Australia and Europe.

JOHN B. STETSON COMPANY

Fifth Street and Montgomery Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.



THE FACTORY OF THE STETSON SHOE COMPANY
SOUTH WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS
E. H. STETSON, PRES.



MORE BY THE PAIR.

LESS BY THE YEAR.

BOOKLET No. 4

Second Edition

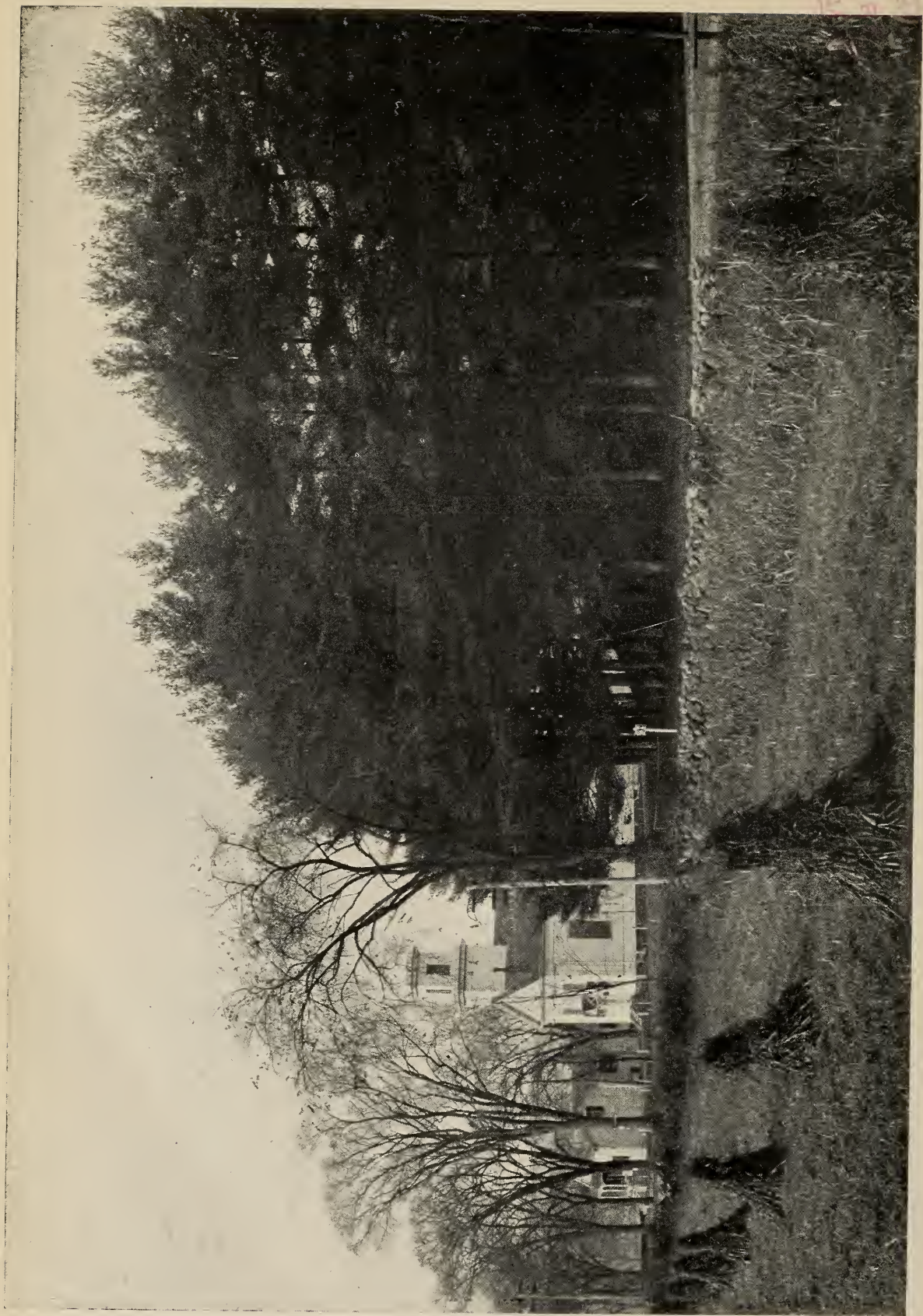
STETSON KINDRED
OF AMERICA
(INCORPORATED)

Biographical Sketches
Historical Papers, etc.



ILLUSTRATED

See New Matter
Pages 99---99n



VIEW AT "CHURCH HILL," NORWELL. (Scituate) Near the Cornet's farm.

STETSON KINDRED OF AMERICA


(INCORPORATED)

Containing Account of Annual Meetings.—Short
Biographical Sketches.—Historical Papers.
Genealogy.—List of Members, etc.

ILLUSTRATED

COMPILED BY
NELSON M. STETSON, Secretary
ABINGTON, MASS.

Price 50 Cents. For Sale by the Secretary.


ROCKLAND, MASS.
PRESS OF A. I. RANDALL

1914



ACCOUNT OF THE EIGHTH AND NINTH ANNUAL RE-UNIONS OF THE STETSON KINDRED.

OWING to the sudden death of our faithful secretary, no extended report of the Eighth Annual Reunion was preserved.

It was however, one of our most successful meetings. Members of the "Kindred" and their families about one hundred in number accepted the kind invitation of our president to dine with him and his guest, Dr. Hamilton W. Mabie. After dinner we listened to an address by our president, followed by Dr. Mabie, Mr. Robert Stetson Gorham and Rev. Melvin Nash.

The Ninth Reunion was held at the "Shrine" Saturday, August 16, 1913. In absence of the president, our vice president, Mr. John B. Stetson Jr., presided, and it was evident that his genial manner and happy rulings were much appreciated by the "Kindred."

The following officers were chosen:

President. Francis Lynde Stetson, New York City.

Vice President. John B. Stetson Jr., Philadelphia.

Secretary and Treasurer. Nelson M. Stetson, Abington, Mass.

Executive Committee. Joshua Stetson Gray, Rockland, Mass.; Miss Susey A. Smith, Kingston, Mass.; Nelson M. Stetson, Abington, Mass.

Directors. The above, and Thomas Drew Stetson, New York, N. Y., Daniel E. Damon, Hanover, Mass.; Miss Esther Stetson Barry, Newton, Mass.; E. E. Stetson, Norwell, Mass.; Dr. Frederick W. Stetson, Roxbury Mass.; George R. Stetson, New Bedford, Mass.

After prayer by Rev. W. L. Phillips, D.D., of New Haven, dinner was served to seventy-four of the Kindred followed by addresses by Hon. Dan'l. E. Damon and Mr. Henry A. Turner. Reading of original poems by Mr. Herbert Randall, a member from Hartford, Connecticut, and an historical paper by Miss Susey A. Smith. Other addresses and papers were omitted for lack of time.

It is a significant fact that there was only one Stetson ancestor in America and that whenever a "lost Stetson" finds his "missing link" he invariably connects with our unique ancestor, the Veteran "Cornet of the Troopers."

Let every Stetson resolve to meet at least once with his kindred at the "Shrine" and spend one day on the spot where two hundred eighty years ago, his ancestor, Robert Stetson, first built his log cabin and laid the foundation of the Stetson Kindred in America.

NELSON M. STETSON

Secretary.

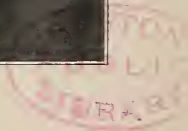


ROBERT STETSON GORHAM

Boston, Mass.

Late Vice-President of the "Kindred."

(A descendant of Joseph)



At the annual meeting of the "Stetson Kindred of America" held at the "Shrine" August 16th 1913, Mr. Daniel E. Damon was chosen a committee to prepare resolutions on the death of Mr. Gorham. The following were read and unanimously adopted.

ROBERT STETSON GORHAM

In the sudden death of Robert Stetson Gorham, a former vice president and director of the corporation, the Stetson kindred of America has sustained a very great loss.

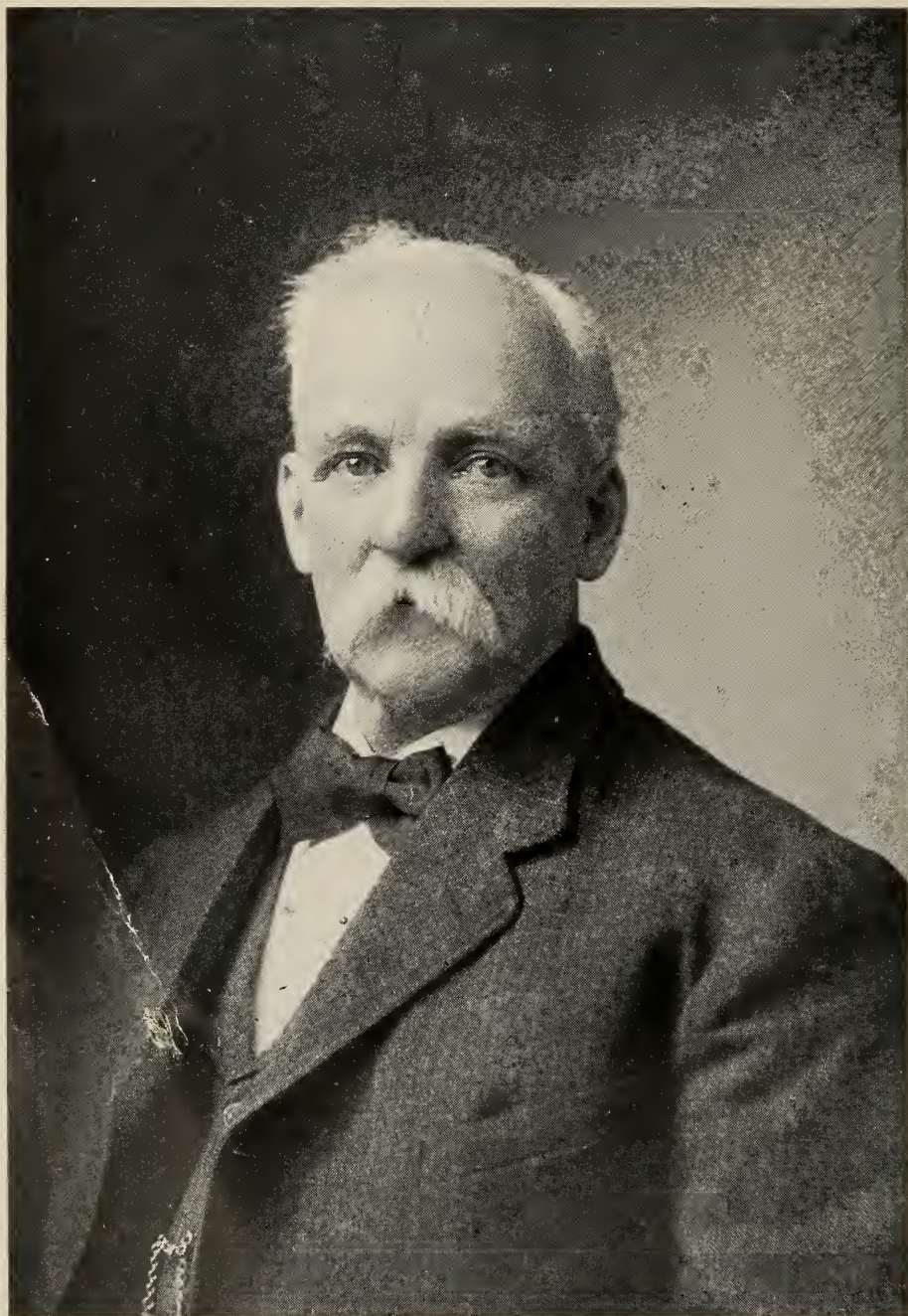
He was an able lawyer, fully illustrating in his life and practice the best ideals of his profession — always fair-minded, honorable and just. As a man and a citizen he contributed his full share to the well-being of the community.

As an association we have benefitted largely by his services as an officer thereof and by his legal services rendered "without money and without price." At his wise suggestion our corporation was formed and he contributed all the legal work and bore all the expenses thereof.

Resolved. That we deeply mourn the loss of such a brother and benefactor and shall ever hold his name in grateful remembrance.

Resolved. Although we know that no words of ours can really carry consolation, we tender to the widow and family of our deceased kinsman our sincere and heartfelt sympathy, pointing them to the fact, that in their great grief, there is left to them to cherish always a very sweet and very precious memory.

Resolved. That these resolutions be placed upon record and a copy thereof sent to the family of our deceased brother.



GEORGE W. STETSON

Late Secretary and Treasurer of the "Kindred."
(A descendant of both Joseph and Serg. Samuel.)



At the last meeting of the "Stetson kindred" held August 16, 1913, Miss Susey A. Smith read the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted.

GEORGE W. STETSON

Born July 21, 1848.

Died November 12, 1912.

Eight years ago, this coming October, we the Stetson kindred, descendants of Cornet Robert Stetson, had a strong call, and a loud call from George W. Stetson, to assemble at his summer home at Norwell and consider how best we could honor our Ancestor. The "Call" was well responded to, and the "Descendents" then and there organized the "Stetson Kindred of America," which has grown to its present size and owes its success to Mr. Stetson, for well did he realize that nothing great is ever achieved without enthusiasm.

His devotion never flagged although ill health held him captive for several years, he was still our inspiration. But for him this organization might never have existed.

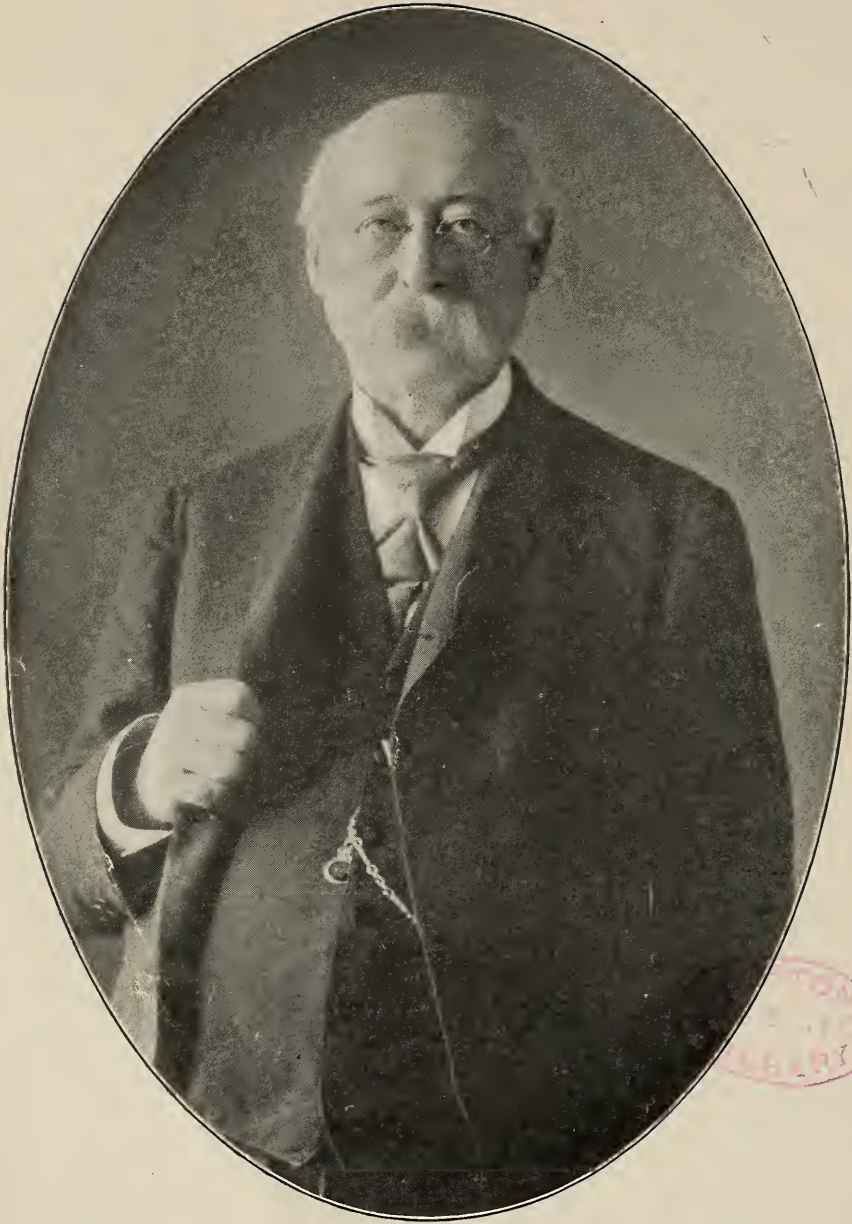
Inasmuch as the kindred owes its life and success to George W. Stetson

Resolved. That our loyalty to his memory can best be expressed by renewing our vows of devotion to the memory of our ancestor, Cornet Stetson, at this shrine each year and strive as best we may, without Mr. Stetson, to keep his memory green, by making this organization the largest and most successful existing.

Mr. Stetson was rarely blessed with a wife who though not a descendant of the "Cornet," entered into all his enthusiasms and plans, for the kindred and was a helpmeet indeed, therefore:

Resolved. That we express to her our sympathy for her loss in the death of her husband, and our appreciation of all she has done for us.

"He is not dead this friend — not dead
But in the path we mortals tread
Got some few triflings steps ahead
And nearer to the end.
So that you too, once past the bend
Shall meet again, as face to face this friend
You fancy dead."



JOHN GLIDDEN STETSON, LL. D.

1833—1908

For 42 years clerk of U. S. Circuit Court, Boston.

JOHN GLIDDEN STETSON, LL. D.

John Glidden Stetson, who was for forty-two years Clerk of the United States Circuit Court, Boston, was born at New Castle, Maine, February 28, 1833, and was the son of Captain Joseph Stetson, a sea captain prominent in his day.

He married, September 6, 1861, Miss Margaret Stevens at New Castle and had three children — Joseph A., Bernard and Miss Marian Stetson of Brookline, a member of the "Kindred," and the only surviving member of the family.

Mr. Stetson's early education was received at Lincoln Academy. He was graduated from Bowdoin College in 1854. A few months later he went to Ohio, becoming principal of the Columbus, Ohio, High School and later of the Walnut Hill High School of Cincinnati. After a few years he returned to Massachusetts and entered the Harvard Law School from which he was graduated in 1860. During the next four years he practiced law in Portland, Maine, leaving his practice February 1, 1864, to accept the position of deputy clerk of the United States Circuit Court. In 1866 he was appointed clerk. This position he held until June 16, 1891, when at the organization of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals he was made clerk, which position he held until his death.

In 1872, Mr. Stetson was appointed Master in Chancery and Commissioner of the Circuit Court. The office of Commissioner was abolished in 1897, and on October 17, 1907, he was appointed United States Commissioner. For many years Mr. Stetson had acted as Master in cases pending in the Federal Courts.

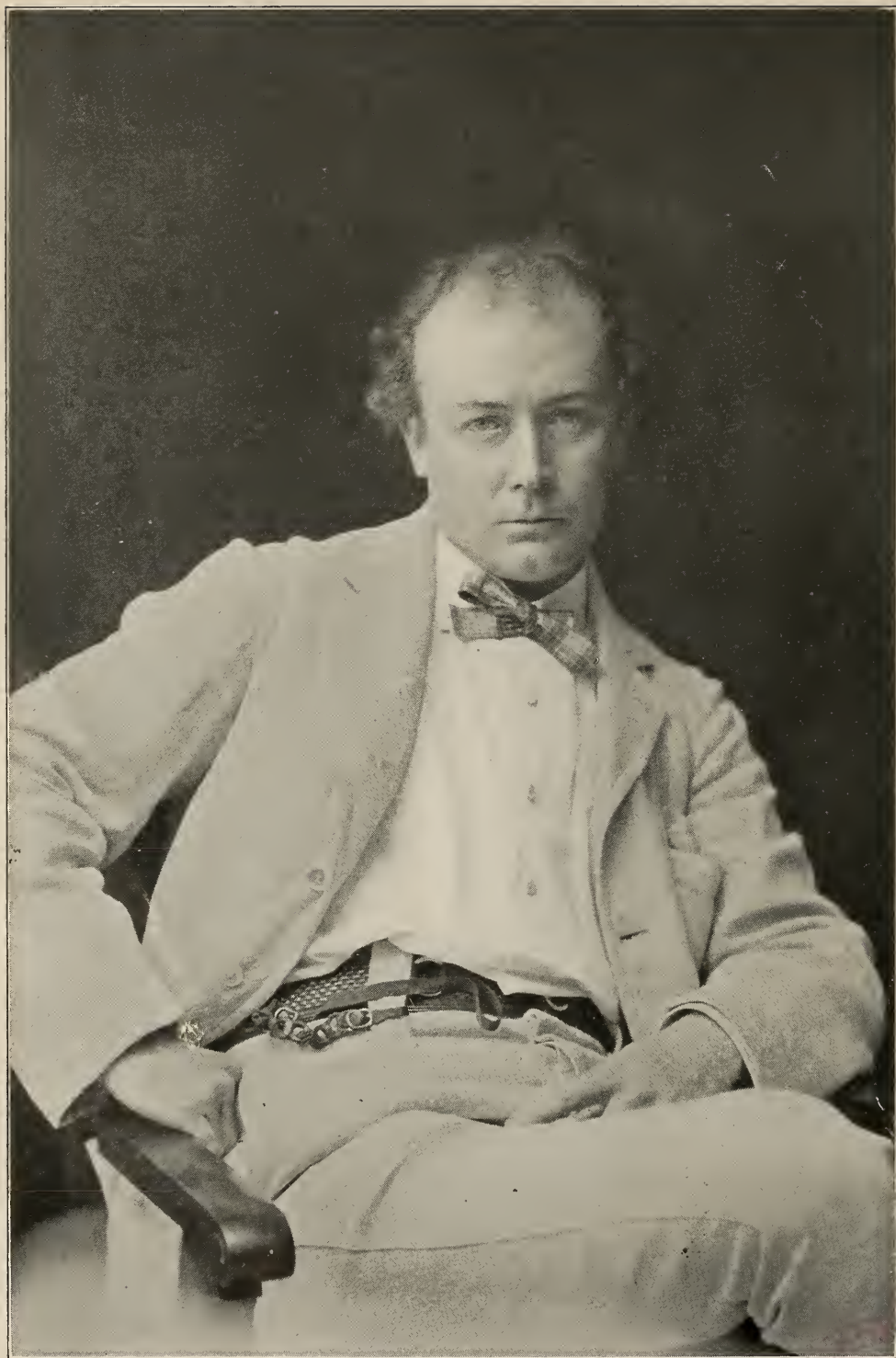
While Master many very important cases were heard before him.

Mr. Stetson served as trustee of the Roxbury Institution for Savings, and was for many years vestryman at St. James' Episcopal Church, Roxbury.

A friend of Mr. Stetson has said, "Undoubtedly, Mr. Stetson's keen and delicious humor, was the leaven of his whole life."

"His deep loyalty to friends and associates — his evenness of temperament — his unbounded generosity in response to all appeals — and his judicious fairness to everyone — all went to the making up of a man for whom the world was better." Had Mr. Stetson lived a few months longer, he would have received from his Alma Mater the degree of LL.D.

When Mr. Stetson's attention was called to the "Stetson Kindred of America" he became a very enthusiastic member, but was spared to attend only one reunion which he thoroughly enjoyed.



CHARLES WALTER STETSON—Artist

Providence, R. I.

Born in Tiverton, R. I., 1858. Died in Rome, 1911.

A grandson of Charles Stetson who was born in Scituate, Mass., Jan. 15, 1792.

CHARLES WALTER STETSON.

Charles Walter Stetson, artist, was the son of the late Rev. Joshua Stetson, M. D. (who at his death at the age of ninety-two, was the oldest member of the "Stetson Kindred of America") and grandson of Charles Stetson, born in Scituate, Massachusetts, January 15, 1792. His mother was a daughter of Judge Samuel Steele of Gloucester, Rhode Island. He was born on the 25th of March, 1858, in Tiverton Four Corners, a picturesque portion of Rhode Island, where his father was then preaching.

He married in 1884, Charlotte A. Perkins, a grand-daughter of Lyman Beecher, who became a famous writer and lecturer. Their daughter, Katharine Beecher Stetson is already an artist of note—her paintings strongly resembling those of her father in coloring and technique.

Mr. Stetson married secondly in 1894, Grace Ellery Channing, grand-daughter of Rev. William Ellery Channing and author of "Dr. Channing's Note Book," "The Sisters of a Saint," "Sea Drift," "The Fortune of a Day," also short stories, poems, and miscellaneous articles in "Harper's," "The Century," "Scribner's" and "The Atlantic Monthly."

The following paragraphs are from the catalog of the exhibition of Mr. Stetson's paintings, published by "The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts."

"Mr. Stetson was so much the youngest of a family of four children that in the matter of companionship he grew up almost as an only child might have done. From Tiverton, while he was still very little, the family removed to Taunton, Mass., where the father served as City Missionary during the Civil War. Thereafter they moved frequently, following the rule of the Baptist congregation, ("I think we went to nearly all the New England States, as the churches 'called' "—he has written,)—and from his earliest memories the boy was acquainted with the hardships attending this ambulatory and precarious existence of a poor New England pastor's family, of those days, with its constant changes, often uncongenial homes, and meagre salary—too often paid "in kind."

Without money, without models, without instruction, without even, as he frequently lamented, sufficient time for study, because of the necessity of painting things to sell if he was to have a studio at all, still he worked on ambitiously. Pictures of his, to no one's surprise so much as the artist's, began to find their way into the exhibitions of the Pennsylvania Academy, the Boston Art Club, and others, arousing the attention of critics and the interest of such a man as James Jackson Jarvis, who made a pilgrimage to the obscure studio in Providence and predicted a future for the painter. They drew also from the painter, Champney, the prophecy—"This man is wonderful now; wait until he has worked out to his yet undeveloped self and the result will be genius." One of the first to encourage him was the critic and writer, Charles DeKay.

The first complete exhibition of his work in the Providence Art Club Gallery was a success leading to a greater one. Mr. Noyes, of the Boston firm of Noyes & Blakeslee, was one of the visitors from without, and obtained the painter's somewhat reluctant consent to show the pictures in Boston. Of this Boston exhibition John Boyle O'Reilly wrote as follows:

"All the immemorial complaints of unrecognized genius become ridiculous before the success of the young Providence painter who, unheard of at the beginning of the week, at its end saw his pictures taken up at his own prices as fond possessions by collectors whose endorsement by purchase makes an artist's reputation." "In any capital of the world," he affirmed, "these pictures would attract attention."

Mr. Stetson was never a strong man; his early life was a struggle with poverty and his later years a struggle with disease. His last days were spent in California and Italy. He died in Rome at the age of fifty-three at a time when his work was just beginning to be fully appreciated.

Three months before his death, he said: "I think I have learned my trade; now if I have even three years more, I will paint something."

Since Mr. Stetson's death the continued exhibitions of his paintings in the large cities have met with wonderful success.

FRANCIS LYNDE STETSON.

Many years hence, when our president has gone the way of all the world, someone will no doubt tell the "Kindred" all about him, but, in the meantime it seems proper that they should know something of his character and achievements.

From a modern cyclopedia we learn that Mr. Stetson is a son of Lemuel Stetson, M.C., that he is a graduate and trustee of William's College, receiving the degree A. M. from William's and L.L.B. from Columbia.

Mr. Stetson was organizer of the United States Steel Corporation, and has been General Counsel for the company from its inception. He is also General Counsel for the Northern Pacific Railway Co., International Mercantile Marine Co., United States Rubber Co., and Southern Railway Co.

Mr. Stetson is also director of Erie Railroad Co., Niagara Falls Power Co., and New York, Susquehanna & Western R. R. Co.

We are told that he is a "prominent Episcopalian and member of many clubs." Surely, our president must be a very busy man.

Of course, we all remember that Mr. Stetson together with our late vice president, Mr. John B. Stetson, purchased and presented to the "Stetson Kindred of America" the home of their ancestor on North River.

Five generations of Mr. Stetson's ancestors lived in Scituate and Hanover, (a part of old Scituate.) About the year 1770 his great-grandfather Robert, with his family, moved from Scituate to Hardwick, Mass.

In answer to a request sent to Dr. Hamilton W. Mabie that he tell us something about Mr. Stetson, he replied, "I should be very glad of the opportunity." "I have no dearer friend" and "know of no man in whose integrity I have greater confidence."

He sends the following:



Truly yours
Francis Lynde Stetson

President of the "Stetson Kindred of America."
(A descendant of Joseph.)

FRANCIS LYNDE STETSON.

My acquaintance with Mr. Stetson began in Williamstown on the eve of entering college; and the old steps which led up to West College will always be dear to me as the birthplace of a life long friendship. Two eager boys dreaming of things to come, we sat on the upper step one summer day and began a friendship which has ripened with the years into a deep and abiding fellowship of spirit and purpose.

It would have been easy to forecast Mr. Stetson's future from his attitude and aims in college. Rectitude was then as now the basis of his character. He has a directness of moral perception which predestined him to clear an unswerving integrity in all the relations and affairs of life. Add to this fundamental rectitude an open and frank nature, and a habit, not only of personal kindness but of general good-will and a strong instinctive desire in all differences of opinion to bring men together on a common ground, and the high and warm regard in which Mr. Stetson is held and his notable success in his profession are easily understood.

He has drawn men to him and has inspired them with confidence. Loyalty to his friends and to all the interests confided to him has contributed largely to his influence; while his vigorous intellect, his habit of logical thought, his orderliness, thoroughness and industry have made him a singularly efficient man.

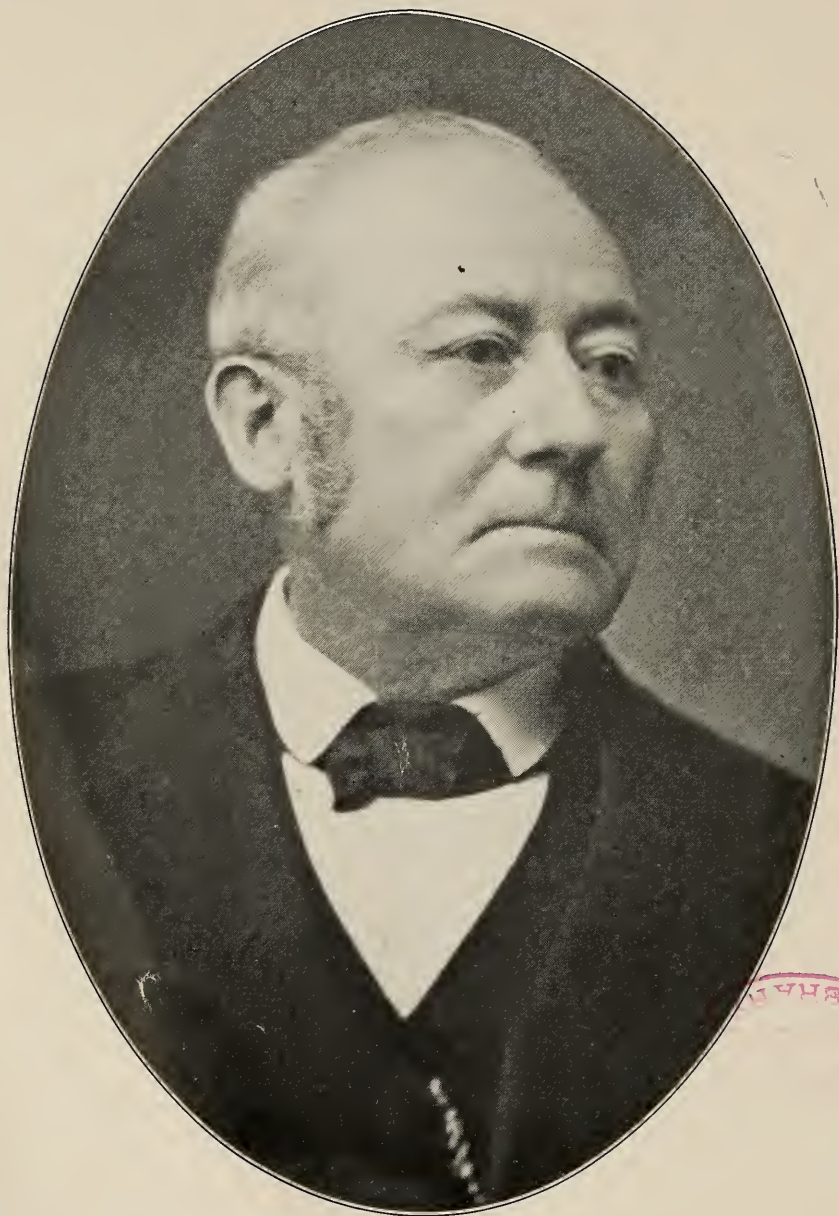
In a period of great temptations to men who were dealing with large affairs, he has won the "white flower of a blameless life."

To his friends his steadfastness, companionable intelligence and unfailing humor have been a continual delight; while all who have had any claim on his sympathy or aid have found him not only quick but generous in response. To use a commercial phrase, he has honored at sight all the drafts which life has drawn on him.

It would be a pleasure to fill in this bare outline with the intimate touches that would give the portrait charm and atmosphere; but the sanctity of a life-long friendship makes that impossible.

HAMILTON W. MABIE.

April 9, 1914.



GEN'L CHARLES A. STETSON

40 years landlord of the "Astor House", N. Y. City.

(A descendant of Captain Benjamin.)

GENERAL CHARLES A. STETSON.

General Charles A. Stetson was a descendant of Cornet Robert Stetson, who was cornet of the first "Troop of Horse," raised in Plymouth Colony in the year 1658. He descended via Captain Benjamin Stetson of Scituate who survived the Canada Expedition, 1690, and Captain Prince Stetson of Hanover, Massachusetts, who was Lieutenant in the Hanover Company, 22nd Regiment Foot — serving in the Revolution. He was born in Newburyport, Massachusetts, April 1, 1810. Married Lucy Ann Brown, a granddaughter of Captain Moses Brown, who in 1799 commanded the Privateer General Arnold, mounting eighteen six pounders.

When but eighteen years old, he had charge of the Tremont House, Boston, Massachusetts. In 1837 he went to the Astor House, New York. General Stetson retained the lease for nearly forty years. He had a most wonderful memory for names and faces. This with his cordial manner won for him the esteem of all who met him. He would greet men by name whom he had not seen for years, and recall their business and their residence.

His military title came from his appointment as Quarter Master General of the State of New York by Governor Washington Hunt, January, 1851. For twenty years he was First Lieutenant of the New York Light Guard.

Among his close personal friends were Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, William H. Seward, Thurlow Weed, Moses H. Grinnell, Simeon Draper, James Watson Webb, Prescott Hall, James Gordon Bennett, and Generals Grant, Sherman and Hooker. In later years he entertained his friends at his home at Swampscott, Massachusetts, where he passed his declining years.

One of the most valued treasures left by General Stetson to his



CAPT. PRINCE R. STETSON

(A descendant of Capt. Benjamin.)

In May, 1861, Capt. Stetson was appointed by Pres. Lincoln 1st Lieut. 15th U. S. Infantry. In 1862 he served as Regimental Adjutant commanding Co. B, 3d Battallion. Was Acting Chief of Ordnance on staff of Maj. Gen. D. N. Conch, commanding Dept. of the Susquehanna, during invasion of Pennsylvania, with headquarters at Harrisburg, Pa. Was next ordered to Sherman's Army near Chattanooga and appointed personal aide to Maj. Gen. Joe Hooker, commanding 20th Corps, Sherman's Army. He continued as aide to Gen. Hooker until close of the war.



EDWARD ECKERT STETSON

(A descendant of Capt Benjamin.)

Son of Capt. Prince R. Stetson, was a member of First City Troop, Philadelphia City Cavalry. (This troop was organized during the war of the Revolution and has served in every war of the U. S. since.) Served in Spanish American war as part of Second Army Corps. In Porto Rico, with 6th Regular Cavalry, they acted as advance guard for Maj. Gen. John Brooke.

family is a copy of Daniel Webster's Speeches — 6 Volumes. Vol. 1 contains a letter as follows: "Washington, D. C., April 7, 1852, My dear Sir: I have requested that a copy of my Speeches of the Edition lately published in Boston, be sent to you. Will you be kind enough to accept the gift as a proof of my sincere regard, and suffer the volumes to stand on the shelves of your library to renew hereafter in the minds of your children the recollection of their father's friend, Yours with most sincere esteem, Daniel Webster."

During the Civil War, General Stetson did his share to help the Union cause. Assisted in the enlistment and forwarding of soldiers. When the 6th Massachusetts marched down Broadway, New York, on their way to Washington, D. C., they were halted at the Astor House by an invitation for them to breakfast as guests of General Stetson. He was always on hand with his good wife to help the returning heroes, who came back wounded and sick.

A letter from Governor Andrews of Massachusetts to General Stetson says, "In examining some New York accounts today, my attention has been called for the first time officially to the generous hospitality of the Astor House to our Massachusetts troops, and I hasten in behalf of the Commonwealth to acknowledge gratefully your liberality."

General Stetson was a life long member of the "New England Society." The following resolutions were passed by the "New England Soldiers Relief Association," April 2, 1862: "This Association has been informed of the many acts of Christian Charity, Sympathy, and Kindness which have been shown by Charles A. Stetson and family to the wounded, sick and suffering soldiers, who have passed through this city on the way to their homes from the seat of war. And whereas it is the duty as well as the pleasure of this Association to recognize and acknowledge such acts of disinterested patriotism and benevolence, therefore, resolved, unanimously that this committee tender their sincere thanks to General Stetson and the members of his family for their kind attention to the sick and wounded soldiers, who have passed through New York on their way to their homes. Signed William M. Evarts, Chairman."

Among mementoes of the Civil War none is more highly prized



BOSTON
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

MAJOR ALEXANDER McCULLOCH STETSON

(From small wartime photograph.)

(A descendant of Capt. Benjamin.)

Major of 11th Reg. N. Y. Volunteers, Col. Ellsworth—"Ellsworth's Zouaves." Served with the 11th at Fort Monroe and Bull Run and until they were mustered out.

than the quill pen with which General U S. Grant wrote a pass dated November 20, 1864, which reads, "Pass General C. A. Stetson and the gentleman in company to City Point, Virginia, and return pass good until used. Signed U.S. Grant, Lieutenant General." This invitation was given with a request to be at City Point, Virginia on the 20th of March, 1865, to remain with General Grant for thirty days, in which time the final action and capture of the Confederate forces would in all probability take place.

General Stetson had two sons in the Civil War, Major A. McC. Stetson, 11th New York Volunteers, and Captain Prince R. Stetson, 15th United States Infantry; and in the Spanish War, a grandson, Edward Eckert Stetson, member of 1st Troop, Philadelphia City Cavalry, United States Volunteers, which served in Porto Rico Campaign.

CAPT. PRINCE R. STETSON.

April, 1914.

JOHN B. STETSON.

BY ELBERT HUBBARD.

(Selected from one of the 'Series of Little Journeys to the Homes of Great Business Men' with permission of the publishers "The Roycrofters," Aurora, New York.)

This is the life-story of John B. Stetson, told in "tabloid."

Stetson was an American business man.

He is one of the moderns. I use the word "is," because the influence of a great personality never dies. The influence of the man is with us, and his soul goes marching on.

Stetson was a workingman. He became master of a trade at a time when this trade was a synonym for the shiftless, the unreliable, the erratic.

"Mad as a hatter," was a saying that passed as legal tender in the current coin of language.

John B. Stetson did for the hatter's trade what Wedgwood had done for the potter's.

Stetson made of his trade a business, a profession, a science, an art. He did the thing better than it had ever been done before since history began.

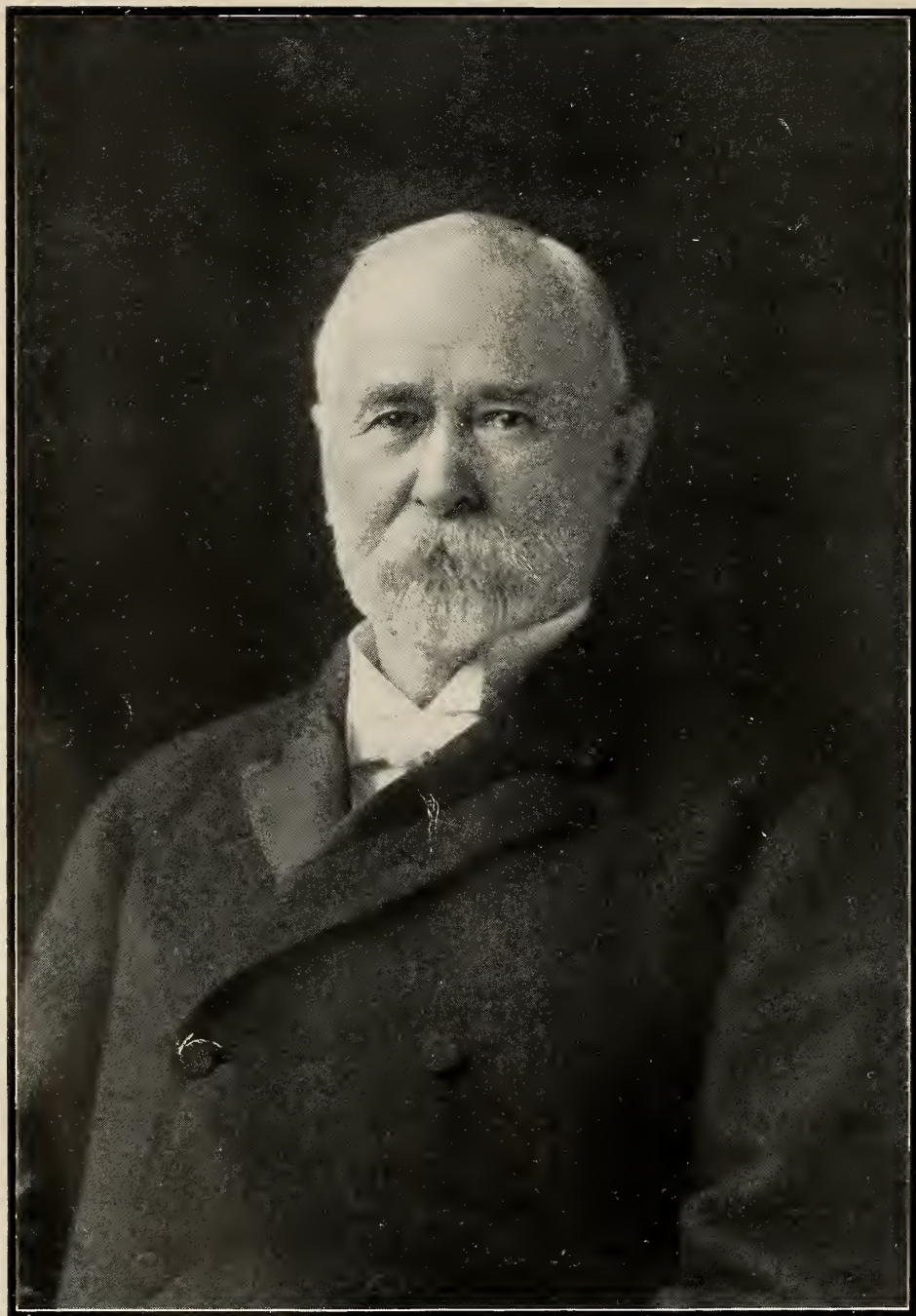
He was an economist, an organizer and a humanitarian.

Incidentally, he became rich, and he made thousands of other people rich. He evolved distinct styles, and he made his name synonymous with the thing he manufactured.

The word "Stetson" has passed into the current coin of expression. If a man asks for a "Stetson" in any civilized country in the world, the dealer knows what he wants; and will possibly try to pass him out "something just as good." Wherever hats are mentioned and discussed for even five minutes the word "Stetson" is used. If a man wants to express the supreme excellence of a hat he tells his customer, "It is a Stetson," or "Just as good as a Stetson," or "Exactly like a Stetson."

But no dealer, even in his wildest imaginings, describes the hat he offers as better than a "Stetson." The "Stetson" is the standard. It stands for beauty, durability, efficiency, and all that is worth while in the line of hats. It "looks" and it lasts.

Stetson made the business of hatting respectable.



Late JOHN B. STETSON
Philadelphia, Penn.
First Vice-President of the "Kindred,"

John B. Stetson was born in Orange, New Jersey, in Eighteen Hundred Thirty. He died in Nineteen Hundred Six.

His was a life of constant activity. He ran the gamut from poverty and hardship to wealth beyond the dreams of avarice.

His father was an employing hatter, and a successful one according to the standard of the times. Stephen Stetson lived over his shop and worked at his trade in the good old-time way. It was an age of handicrafts.

Stephen Stetson was making money, for he had centered on that one thing. He lived in New Jersey, but he had the true New England instincts. He saved, and saved eternally. He worked and he compelled every one else to work, and in his life there were very few play-spells.

When he had accumulated fifty thousand dollars he was accounted one of the richest men in the business. He was fifty years old, and he decided he would retire from business and enjoy himself—not knowing that happiness is a habit, and if you do not get your happiness out of your work you will never know what happiness is.

He did not realize that to retire from work is to retire from life; so he sold out his prosperous business, and the money he had made in a business he understood, he invested in one he knew nothing about.

The elder Stetson passed away, whipped out, discouraged, a bankrupt man.

Stetson's father had taught him the trade. But education outside of one's trade among the hatters was then regarded as quite superfluous, so the lad never attended school a day in his life. His mother taught him to read and write, and being possessed of a hungry mind he acquired knowledge as the days passed. Life was his school.

John B. Stetson was working for an older brother by the day. He made hats, taught others how, sold the product, bought the raw stock—and the brother absorbed the profits and the honors.

So we find brothers separating, and John B. making arrangements to start a business of his own. Then calamity came in the way of ill health. The doctors said John B. Stetson had consumption

and that his days on earth were few. He was slight, slim, slender, nervous, active, and the type of person who goes quick—or lasts long, as the case may be. But John B. Stetson was not to die just then. He studied his own case and he came to the conclusion that he would have to quit the exacting business of making hats and get out in the open.

He struck out for the Far West, which then, in the late Fifties, meant Illinois.

Fever and ague were then the one sure crop of the Middle West. There were not trees enough to absorb the humidity, and the overturned sod created a miasma, and these transformed the prairies into a Campagna of “shakes” similiar to that which surrounded Rome.

Stetson shook, and shook dice with Destiny. He was burned with fever and chilled with cold, but he had no intention of going back East. If he was going to die, he would die in the West, and he pushed on across the Mississippi River, through to the rising city of Saint Joseph, Missouri.

Saint Joseph was a trading-post where parties fitted our for Pike’s Peak—seven hundred fifty miles away.

At Saint Joseph, Stetson worked in a brickyard; then he became manager of the brickyard, then part owner. Clay was plentiful, and wood was to be had for the cutting. He made money and invested it all in business.

His brickyard was on the banks of the Missouri. He had made up half a million bricks all ready to burn, arches complete and filled with wood, fires started, when lo! the fickle and finicky Missouri River went on a rampage, overflowed its banks, rose and kept rising, until it drove the firemen out of Stetson’s brickyards. The water still kept rising. It put out the fires, undermined the arches, and the bricks made without straw tumbled n a mass.

Soon they were a heap of mud, which the yellow waters of the Missouri dissolved.

Stetson’s fortune, the result of two years of hard work, swirled and swam away to the South. Stetson stood on a hilltop and said: “Let ‘er go! I am not the first man who has made a fortune and lost it!”

The Civil War was on, and Stetson tried to enlist, but his physical disabilities were too apparent and he was rejected.

There was a party fitting out for Pike's Peak, and Stetson was invited to become one of the members. He accepted the invitation, and they started away on foot, a dozen young men headed for the Rocky Mountains.

Stetson's health was still precarious. His risk, as the insurance men would say, was a hazardous one.

In any event, however, he would not be a care to society. If he died, he would simply drop in his tracks and a shallow grave would be scooped out on the prairie and there he would rest in his last, long sleep.

It was June and the rosinweed rose as high as a man's head, across the prairies. Clouds of wild ducks circled over the ponds. The prairie-chickens drummed on the little hilltops. The blue cranes threw out their sentinels, strutted and called.

Nature was at her loveliest and best.

And so these young men tramped, following the trail to the West, always to the West, and as they journeyed, health and happiness came back to John B. Stetson.

A year passed. He was big and strong, able and ambitious—full of ideas. He decided that he would go back to the East—back to the city that Benjamin Franklin had done so much to make. There he would work out his dream and, if possible, build up a business.

Reaching Philadelphia, John B. Stetson had one hundred dollars left. He bought the tools of his trade, rented a little room at Seventh and Callowhill Streets, and started to work making hats.

Every Monday morning Stetson bought ten dollars' worth of fur. The fur came in batches and was carried up the creaking stairways by a lusty Irishman who flopped the bale upon the floor and waited stolidly for his money. The mail during the week brought enough to pay for the fur, but barely enough, and one Monday morning when Stetson opened his last letter that had come to him, he discovered that he had not enough money to pay for the bale of fur that would soon arrive. He knew the Irishman was on the way with his wheelbarrow. Soon he would have to make the humiliating confession that he could not pay. What to do was the thing he was revolving in his mind.



JOHN B. STETSON, JR.

Vice President of the "Kindred."

Upon Mr. Stetson many of the duties and responsibilities of his late father have fallen.

He heard the man come up the stairs. He saw him enter with the load upon his shoulders. The Irishman gave the bale a toss and it fell with a thud to the floor, raising a cloud of dust. And as it fell, the Irishman remarked in a hot-mush brogue: "The ould man says that yez needn't mind about sinding the money for a week or so Jes' suit yersilf."

And then the son of Hibernia disappeared down the stairway. Stetson sat dumb with surprise; and tears ran down his cheeks. From that day forward he was a believer in what our friend Socrates called the "Demon." Some call it "Providence," others call it "luck." Stetson never formulated it, but the belief was always his that God was on his side, and that whatever he did would prove to be right and proper and best; that no matter how dark the clouds, light would break through.

This compelling faith in himself and in Destiny never forsook him in all his career.

Stetson was a distinctly religious man in the highest sense. His love for his work and his workers was absorbing, and his faith was the guiding star of his life. This gave him courage and good-cheer, even in the face of seeming disaster. He knew that all would be well. His firm faith in the Good was a strong factor in his success.

In less than a year after Stetson began to make the hat known as the "Boss of the Plains," he gave up the Philadelphia local trade entirely, and in the interests of economy moved from the business district to Fourth Street and Montgomery Avenue, three miles out. He was clear in the suburbs of the city.

Today ninety per cent of all the employees in the great factory, in which fifty-five hundred people are working are sharing in the profits of the business through a system of bonuses. Starting many years ago, Stetson offered on Christmas a small bonus to be paid the next Christmas to those men who worked continuously and faithfully throughout the year. While, the first year, not a large percentage of the men earned the bonus, the result was sufficiently satisfactory to induce the offering of a larger bonus the following year and the extension of the plan to the workers in other departments. Week-workers who had been on the job throughout

the year received a bonus of a fixed amount per week, and piece-workers a percentage of what they earned during the year. This percentage is in some departments as high as twenty per cent, so that the employee who has earned during the year one thousand dollars receives two hundred as a substantial Christmas reminder of his share in the prosperity of the business. When last Christmas I saw fifty-five hundred happy workers gather in the great Stetson auditorium, all singing heartily in the intervals of receiving their bonuses, it was clear that Stetson had made life worth while.

John B. Stetson was too busy to go to a doctor, so when need arose his physician came to see him in his own office. Thinking of others, Stetson got the habit of bringing in such of his employees as needed treatment. This idea, like all of his, enlarged. His own physicians' services were outgrown. Specialists in various lines were called in. A day came when Stetson found that if he was to have an office to call his own that was not a clinic and a dispensary he must make other arrangements. And he built a hospital.

Nor would he confine this to the relief of his employees only. Its benefits were free to all. Twice has the work of the hospital outgrown its building equipment, and today a modern building with a staff of thirty physicians and unsurpassed facilities is ever ready to cure or relieve the ills not only of the workers in the Stetson factory but of the community surrounding it.

Stetson also established in connection with his factories—a hall, reading-rooms, an armory, savings bank and other conveniences for his employees.

Stetson was always giving money, but he took good pains not to give so as to pauperize the individual. The amount of money he gave away no man can compute, for he kept no record of it himself and did not remember it, but like all men who give much he was occasionally victimized.

He made it a habit whenever there was an increase in the family of one of his workers to send congratulations, and at the same time a substantial recognition. He loved babies. He doted on children. He would often go out of his way across the street to pat some youngster on the head and give him a quarter. The children would follow him in the streets and call him by name, and some-

times he would carry a baby in his arms to relieve a tired mother.

It grew to be a custom that when a baby in the family of his workers was a year old the mother would come around to the factory and show her darling to the chief. No matter how busy he was he would go out into the hallway and greet such a mother, and the rule was to give her a dollar and wish her happiness.

Attached to his office in later years was a big waiting-room, and in this room every forenoon was a goodly group of callers who came for their blessing, and a bit anxious for the substantial part of it. Stetson would go out from time to time and clean out the room by shaking hands with everybody and starting them all on their way. There were occasional repeaters, but Stetson overlooked little things like that. He never sent any one hungry and empty-handed away. On one occasion a woman with a baby in a shawl appeared as usual. Stetson shook hands with her, patted the baby on the head, gave her a dollar and started her off down the stairs, happy and smiling.

In about fifteen minutes another woman appeared with a like youngster in her arms. Stetson was intuitive. His was the feminine mind. He simply knew things because he knew. This time, without thinking, he said to the woman, "Haven't I seen you here before?"

And the woman said, "No."

He followed up the question with another. "Were you not in here an hour ago or less?" Then he said, "I have seen this baby before."

The woman, abashed, admitted that she had borrowed the baby from her neighbor.

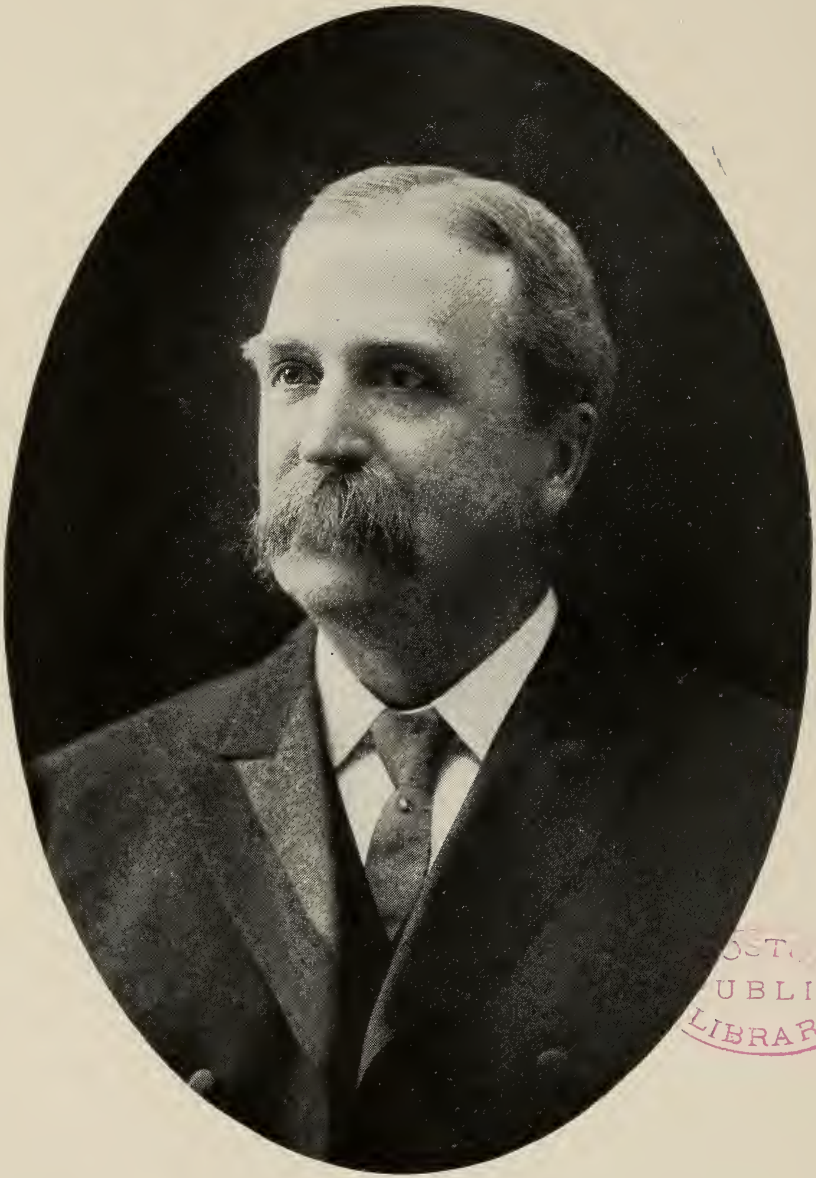
Stetson never blamed anybody for anything, except laziness, not even for lying. He used to say, "Nothing but the truth pays." Yet censure was not in his heart. He never converted himself into a section of the Day of Judgment. He heard the woman's confession that she had borrowed the baby. Then he laughed, shook hands with her, gave her the dollar, and said, "Go off now, and when you come back here again bring a baby of your own."



JOHN STETSON, 3d.
(Future Vice President of the "Kindred"?)

The plans of John B. Stetson for the betterment of Stetson workers have never been allowed to languish. Every Christmas there is a division of profits. Last Christmas over three hundred thousand dollars was given away to employees.

The Stetson spirit regards business as opportunity—not mere opportunity to make money, but also the opportunity to educate, bless, benefit, uplift and add to the joys of the world.



WILLIAM WALLACE STETSON, LL. D.

For over twelve years Maine State Supt. of Schools.

One of the first Directors of the "Kindred."

(A descendant of Joseph.)

WILLIAM WALLACE STETSON, LL.D.

(Selected from Mrs. Stetson's Biographical Sketch of her husband.)

William Wallace Stetson was a lineal descendant of Cornet Robert Stetson, who came from England and settled in Scituate, Mass., in 1634. His great grandfather, Batcheler Stetson, the fourth generation from the Cornet, via his oldest son Joseph, moved from Scituate in 1791 to Greene, Maine, and cleared a farm on which four generations of his descendants have lived. His father, Reuben Stetson, followed the sea many years, six of which he was first mate. He was the last survivor of the crew that took the Stephen's exploring expedition to Mexico and Central America in 1839-40. He married Christina S., daughter of David and Lydia (Stackpole) Thompson. These parents made it their whole aim to train up their four sons to have lofty ideals and to become honest and useful citizens. They gained and held a rank in their several communities and professions not often attained by farmer boys.*

William Wallace Stetson was born June 17, 1849. His childhood and youth were spent in farm work and in a rural school. At the age of fifteen he began his life work by teaching such a school and boarding around. At the age of eighteen he went West, where he taught in rural schools, and continued his education in a western college. In 1884 he returned to his native state to visit his parents, and the following year he became superintendent of the schools of Auburn, Maine, holding this position ten years. In January, 1895, he was appointed State Superintendent of the Public Schools of Maine, in which office he continued twelve and a half years.

* These were in order of their birth, Herbert Lee, now President of Kalamazoo College, William Wallace, Clement S., President of Maine State Grange and James H.

James H. was born in 1855, educated at Monmouth Academy and Westbrook Seminary. Married Alice C. Morse of Greene, lived on the farm with his parents and taught school. He was a young man of much ability and promise, but both he and his wife died before reaching the age of thirty years, leaving no children.



BATCHELER STETSON HOMESTEAD

Greene, Maine.

Cleared by Batchelor Stetson of Scituate in 1791.

Here William Wallace Stetson and his brothers were born.

LIBRARY

In 1871 Mr. Stetson married Miss Rebecca Jane Killough, of Morning Sun, Iowa, who was an instructor in Monmouth College and Academy, at Monmouth, Illinois. Their interests were always in common, and throughout their married life of thirty-nine years they labored together in their chosen profession, the education of youth.

Mrs. Stetson was educated in the rural schools, Morning Sun Academy and Monmouth College. From the latter she received at graduation the degree of A. B., and the degree of A.M. was conferred on her in 1904 in recognition of her long continued services in educational work.

It was during Mr. Stetson's term of superintendency of the schools of Auburn, Maine, that the pupils of his building, responding to his patriotic teaching, were the first to place the stars and stripes over a school building in the state of Maine and the first in the United States to furnish the funds to purchase the flag.

The appointment by Governor Cleaves of Mr. W. W. Stetson, in 1895, to the responsible position of State Superintendent of the Public Schools of Maine gave widespread satisfaction in educational and business circles throughout the State.

On assuming the wider field of labor, he brought to this work vigorous health, marked enthusiasm and tireless energy, great capacity for sustained effort, wide knowledge of school organization and management, quick insight into educational conditions and needs, and foresight of methods to meet them.

He had lived in the strenuous West as well as the conservative East; yet he was not typical of either one or the other. He had sojourned in the South, and studied the schools there. In 1883 he made an extensive trip abroad, studying the different school systems of the most progressive educators in England, France and Germany. Thus his educational ideals were broad and comprehensive.

During his incumbency Mr. Stetson gave the schools of Maine a name which has gone far beyond our own country. This he did by the ability and dignity he brought to the office and the cosmopolitan interest he manifested in the schools of other lands.

Mr. Stetson's reports were considered the most valuable documents published in the State of Maine and regarded as an authority by the foremost educators. They were always full of suggestions and helpful ideas.

The following quotations are from leading educators.

"The state of Maine is blessed with an enthusiast, a tireless man, W. W. Stetson, Superintendent of the Educational Department. He raises his voice on paper, and he sings in a way that makes the people listen, gratefully. Even his correspondence paper bears signs of his belief that the care of the young is the most important national duty. On the left hand corner of his note-paper sheet there are five statements—democratic, incontrovertible,

'The homes of Maine are domestic universities.

The home and the school hold the hope of the future.

The common school is to be the social, literary, and art center of the community.

The safety of the nation is not in the hands of its rulers, but in the lives of its common people.

The world's best servant knows the past, lives in the present, foresees the future, and is ready for the next thing.'

Obviously the idea is to teach children that they live and are parts of a great living machine."

"Mr. Stetson has a strong and commanding personality; he is an indefatigable worker, a forceful and independent thinker; he loves justice and hates iniquity; courteous but not condescending; a masterly teacher and an admirable executive.

"He is an orator par excellence. In him are combined the droll wit of the yankee, the brusque persuasiveness of the Westerner, the captivating eloquence of the Southerner. And he fills the eye, this Northern pine."

"Massachusetts had her Horace Mann, and Connecticut, her Henry Barnard. Maine has had her William Wallace Stetson."

"I am glad to add my testimonial of one whom I have known as a close friend for fifteen years. The work W. W. Stetson has done for the State of Maine will stand for ever. During our long friend-

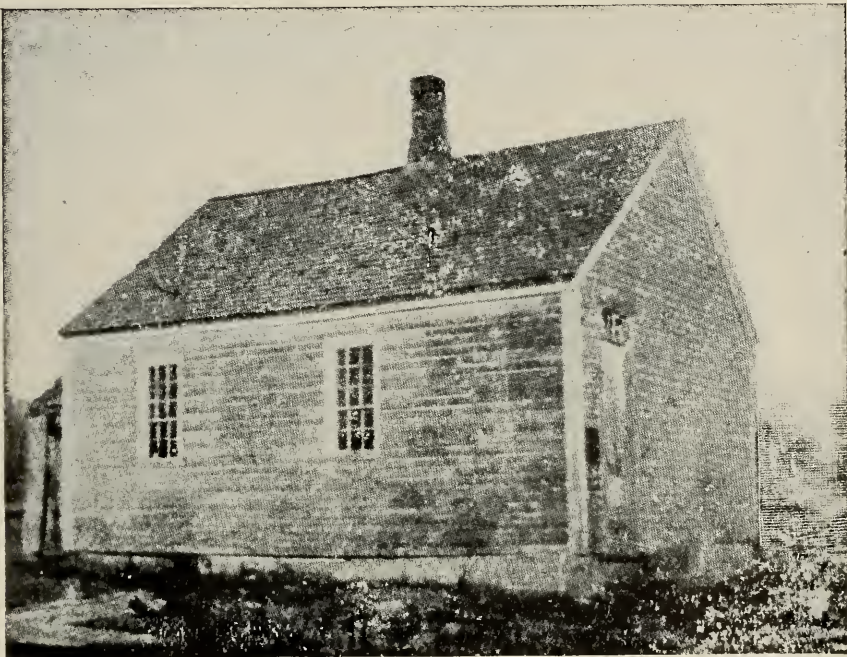
ship, I have found him a man of honor, of strong integrity, of loyalty, of high ideals, square and true to the line. The State of Maine owes him a lasting debt of gratitude, for he gave his life that generations to come might profit by his sacrificing efforts.

“Best of all it is that those who were permitted to know him and walk with him can never forget his loyal friendship, his magnificent power, his generous heart and upright spirit. It will take more than the little calumny of enemies to obliterate the affection which we of my little household entertain for this big hearted man.

“When the educational history of Maine shall be written, William Wallace Stetson will stand head and shoulders above them all, ‘undimmed by time and undisturbed by fears’.”

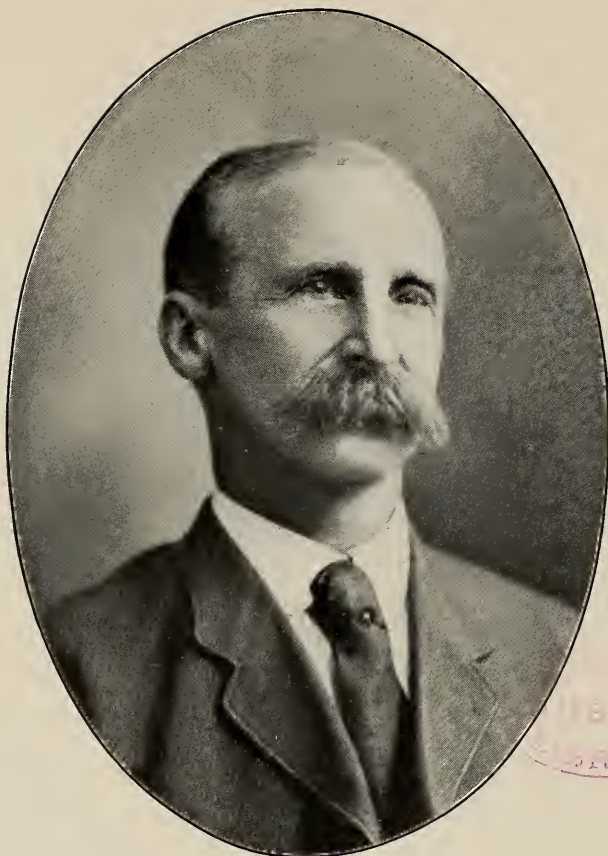
“The good work Mr. Stetson has done is well known throughout the educational world and will outlast every schoolhouse in Maine, for it has been wrought into the lives of thousands of boys and girls, destined to influence the men and women of other generations.”

“State Superintendent Stetson is in our opinion, the most stalwart figure on the public education platform in America.”



DISTRICT SCHOOL HOUSE—Greene, Maine.

Here W. W. Stetson first attended school.



CLEMENT S. STETSON—Farmer

Master Maine State Grange.

Clement S. Stetson, a brother of William Wallace Stetson, was born in 1853, in Greene, Maine, and occupies the farm cleared by his great grandfather, Batcheler Stetson, who came here from Scituate, Mass., in 1791.

Mr. Stetson was educated in the Common Schools and Monmouth Academy—went West at 19—taught school—studied law—was admitted to the bar—but on the death of his brother James, returned to Greene to care for his parents and take charge of the farm.

His townsmen have honored him by bestowing on him every position of trust within their power, and he has held for the last eight years the office of "Master of the State Grange," an organization composed of nearly 60,000 farmers.

He married in 1886 Mary E. Wood of Winthrop. They have had no children.

His mastery of the English language was wonderful. Being a man of fine taste, clear vision and high ideals, his mind was adequate to supply him with a great variety of themes which he clothed in beautiful and attractive style.

He was a man of remarkable power and resolution. He gave his best and untiring thought to the work in hand. No matter how formidable, the work went on smoothly and successfully. No man ever gave his life more completely to his professional duties than did Mr. Stetson at all times and on all occasions. He literally gave his whole life to the cause of education.

During his term of service Superintendent Stetson prepared and distributed among the teachers, school officers and other citizens of the state more than seventy different pamphlets, in which he discussed the educational problems of the day.

In the performance of his duties, he traveled more than 295,000 miles in the state. He delivered more than 2,250 addresses.

In 1902, Colby College conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Laws in honor of the faithful work he had done for the cause of education in the State; and again in 1908 this same honor of LL. D. was bestowed on him by Monmouth College, Illinois, for the work he had done in the field of literature and education throughout the whole country. As he had labored continuously for forty years, both in the East and West, it was fitting that he should be honored by both.

During his long illness of more than two years, there were no gloomy, repining, impatient words. All who saw him expressed amazement at his cheerfulness, patience and resignation in giving up his active life. It seemed like a miracle to see a strong, robust, ambitious, energetic man become so completely reconciled to the abandonment of his plans and engagements.

Mr. Stetson was stricken while on a lecture tour through the West. He says, "Then I was stopped in the only way in which I could be forced to retire from a work in which I was determined to win some measure of success. For a moment the blow hurt—hard—and then I said good-bye to a career with all good grace. The final result being inevitable, it was best that the decree should come in the form it did. I accept the sentence with the silent and oral comment: 'It is well.'

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“MAPLE KNOLL”
Home of William Wallace Stetson, Auburn, Maine.

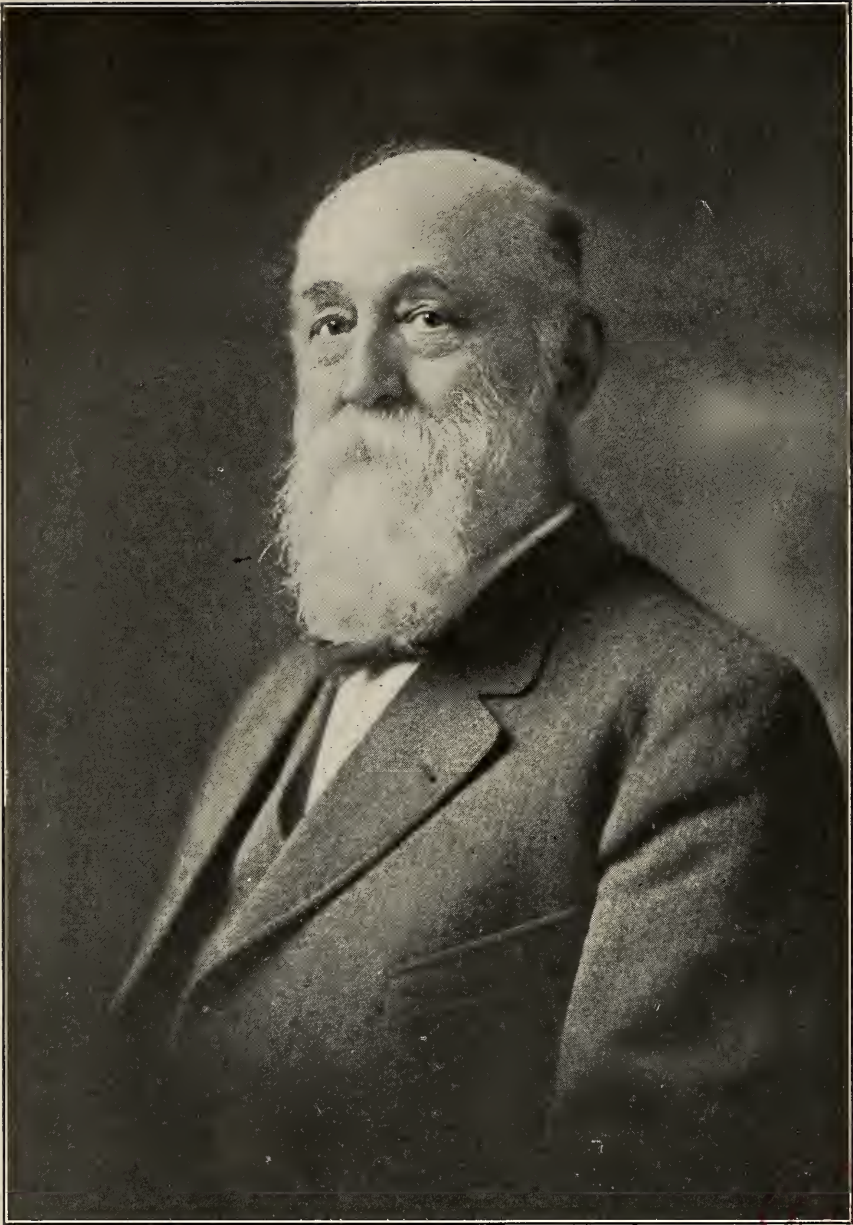
The following, written to friends two weeks before he died, was the last message of William Wallace Stetson.

THE JOY OF SERVING.

“Souls grow lean if they think much of self or the recompense they should receive for exhibitions of concern for others. They are victims of a poverty no riches can relieve or conceal. They are barred from those sanctuaries where the heart sings the songs of peace. As the days loiter to their close they discover life is a sleepless torture. They refuse to learn it is not what you have that makes for happiness but the sacrifice made and forgotten that brings joys which abide. Life yields the largest dividends when you serve as spontaneously as you breathe and with as little after-math of reflection. When this truth illumines your dome you will exalt daily tasks by associating with them tropical greetings, assuring welcomes, honest smiles, strengthening words, comforting deeds, delicate praises and ante-mortem recognitions. Then you will walk with those who travel in lonely paths, place a lifting hand beneath wearying burdens, give unregretted dollars to carry sunshine into shadowed lives, dispense home-brewed hospitalities and nerve the elect with your hail and God-speed. Such service will tint the dawn when your lovers are legion, shed around you ‘the light that never was on sea or land,’ sing anthems in the chancel of your soul and let you whisper, as the canvas of the Lord slips down the west,

‘I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crost the bar’.”

His faith in God and his love of humanity were very simple. His words, his manner, his every action showed in the trend of his thought that the veil was being removed from his spirit, that he knew that he would soon see the “canvas of the Lord slip down the west,” and that he was nearing the “dividing line between time and eternity,” and that he would see his “Pilot face to face.”



GEORGE R. STETSON—New Bedford, Mass.

A Director and descendant of Joseph.

George R. Stetson was born in Brooklyn, Connecticut, July 11, 1837. The son of James Alexander and Dolly Witter Stetson.

James Alexander Stetson was born in Scituate, September 28, 1801, being the sixth generation from Cornet Stetson to be born in Scituate. At the age of twenty-six, he married Dolly Witter, the

only daughter of Captain Ebenezer Witter of Brooklyn, Connecticut.

George R. was the sixth in a family of ten children. In 1843, the family moved to Northampton and became associated with "The Northampton Association of Education and Industry." Four years later they returned to Brooklyn and took possession of the old ancestral farm.

Mr. Stetson says, "I consider those four years with this 'community' the most fortunate period of my early youth." "I have reason to believe that the 'Kindergarten' system or at least its principles were here applied for the first time in America."

"After our return to the farm I was in, what Mr. Carnagie considers, 'the fortunate position of a poor boy on a farm.'" I well remember the exultant joy with which I entered on this new life, and while the eight years spent on this farm were years of toil—yet I was not overworked and acquired habits of economy and industry, which proved of inestimable value in later years.'

In January, 1855, an older sister (now widow of the late Rev. Dr. DeNormandie of Kingston,) secured for him a position in Northampton to learn the machinist's trade, and in 1858 he completed his apprenticeship at the American Machine Works in Springfield, Massachusetts.

In 1861 Mr. Stetson secured his first contract for the manufacture of arms.

In 1863, he entered the employment of the Winchester Arms Company, with whom he continued for ten years, having charge of the Ammunition Department in New Haven. During his service with the Company, he invented and patented several valuable improvements in cartridges and their manufacture.

In 1873, he assumed the manufacturing management of The Morse Twist Drill and Machine Company, retaining this position until July 1 1890, when he assumed the presidency and general management of The New Bedford Gas and Edison Light Company, resigning in 1912 after holding the position for twenty-two years but still retaining a position as president of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Stetson married, November 23, 1859, Ellen Maria Stall of Hadley, Massachusetts, and they have had three sons and four daughters.

JOHN B. STETSON UNIVERSITY.

This University is located at Deland Volusia County, Florida. "The Athens of Florida," a beautiful city founded by Henry A. Deland on a spot chosen because of its beauty and healthfulness.

The university was founded by Mr. Stetson and during the last twenty years of his life it was his constant joy to see the university expand. The generous gifts made by him to the endowment of the university have under his wise management now nearly reached the sum of one million dollars.

Mr. John B. Stetson, Jr. and his mother (for whom "Elizabeth Hall" was named) continued to contribute to the welfare of the institution, and Mr. Stetson is president of the board of directors.

John B. Stetson and those associated with him were Baptists and the University stands for Christian principles. It will not recede from Christian standards but does not, however teach sectarianism.

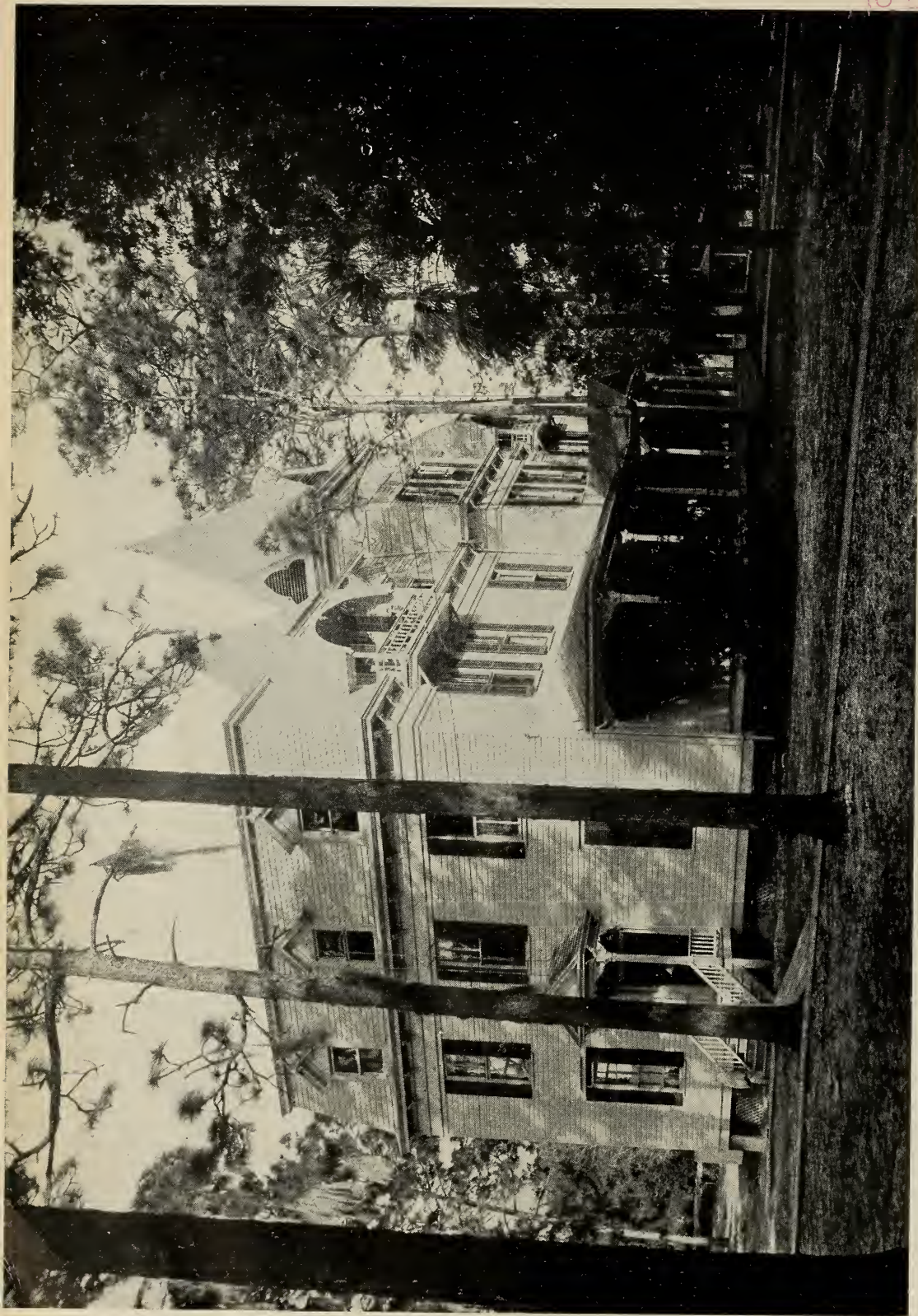
Stetson is remarkable for the high honor and character of its students, a large proportion of whom come from the best homes in Florida. Every effort is made to promote a healthy moral and spiritual life among the students, and parents sending their children — boys or girls to Stetson may feel as safe about them as if they were under their own roof.



JOHN B. STETSON UNIVERSITY—ELIZABETH HALL (EAST VIEW)

This is the chief building of the University and is 250 feet long and three stories high. In the main building are the offices, class rooms, and several laboratories. In the massive north wing are the Business College, Biological Laboratory, and Monroe Heath Museum. This building consists of three separate buildings located side by side and all erected by Mr. John B. Stetson.

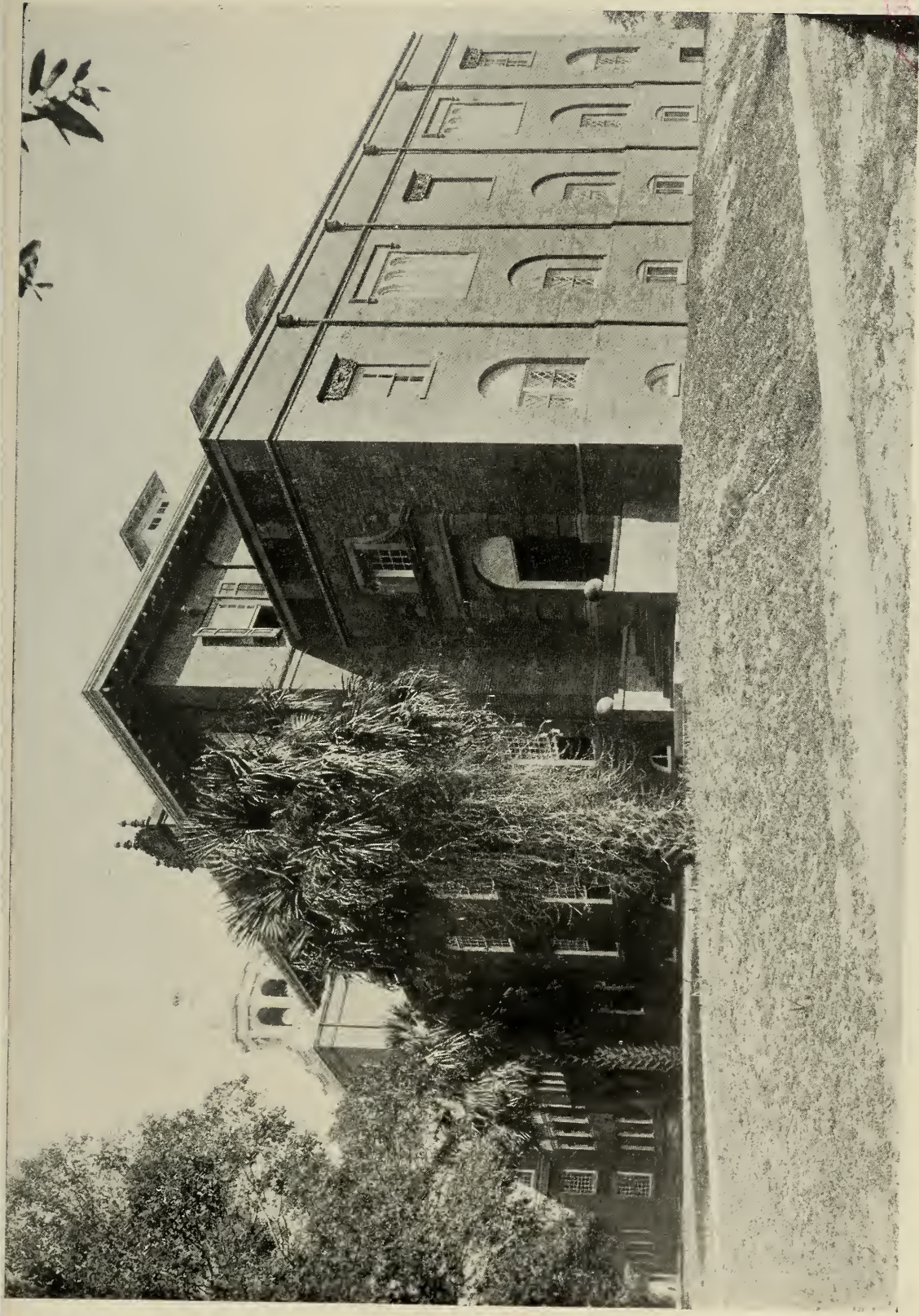
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JOHN B. STETSON UNIVERSITY—STETSON HALL

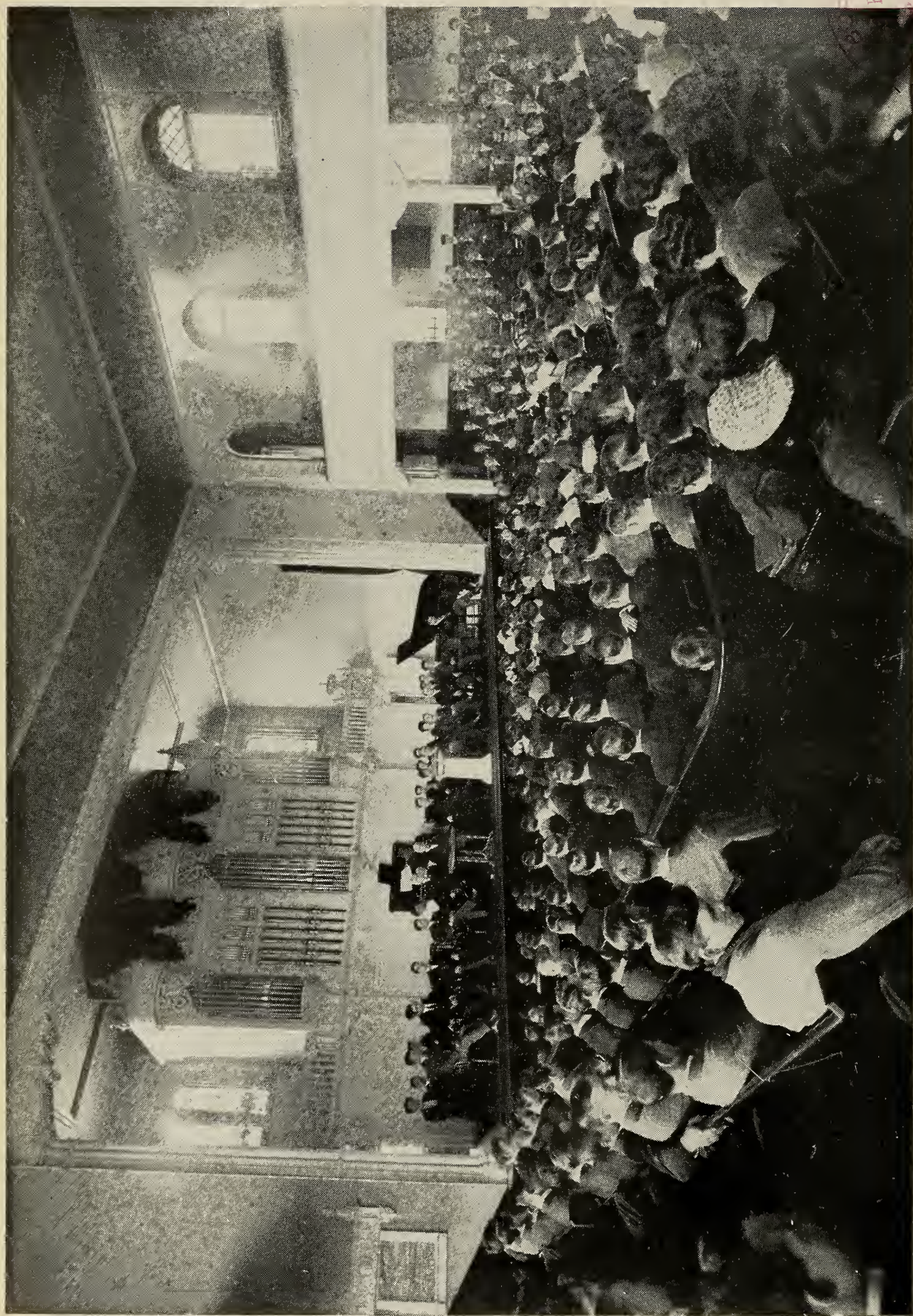
Stetson Hall, a three-story building, was erected by the citizens of DeLand, assisted by Mr. DeLand, Mr. Sampson and Mr. Stetson, for the latter of whom it was named, he being the largest giver. The building contains forty-five rooms for teachers and students. The rooms are well furnished, large, pleasant and well lighted, with clothes-press attached to each. This building is occupied by the young men under the supervision of a head of the house.

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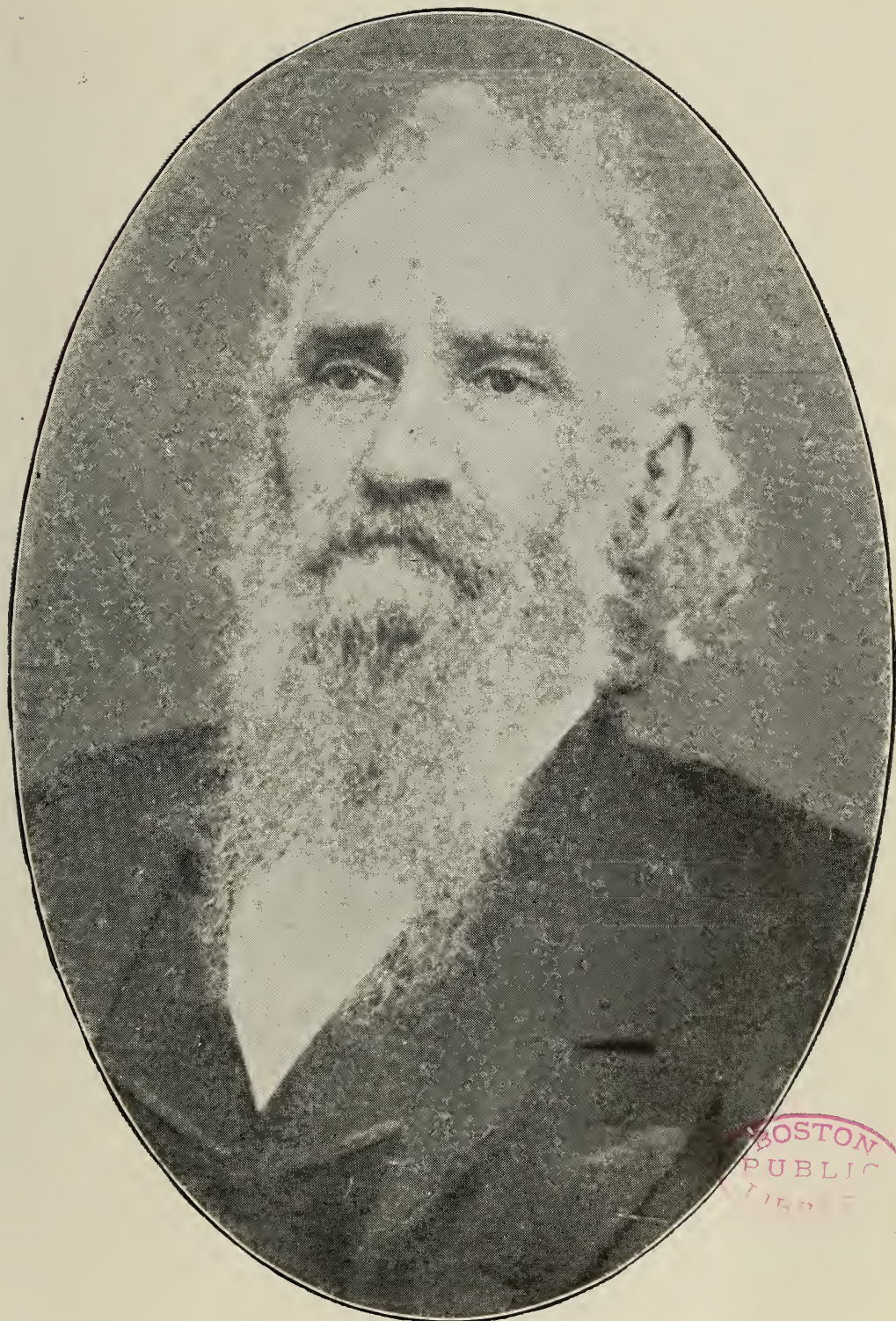
JOHN B. STETSON UNIVERSITY—ELIZABETH HALL (THE SOUTH WING)

Architecturally this building is unsurpassed. The first and second stories, eighty by seventy-five feet, together form the splendid Auditorium. The entire third floor of this building is given to the school of music. The University is located in the beautiful town of DeLand, Volusia County, Florida, in a section remarkable for its healthfulness.



JOHN B. STETSON UNIVERSITY—THE AUDITORIUM AT CHAPEL TIME

The Auditorium or chapel is 75 x 80 feet and with its gallery has a seating capacity of 900. The acoustic properties are very fine, and the grand Pipe Organ is one of the best in the South. The daily chapel exercises, also the public entertainments, such as lectures, etc., given by the University, are held here.



HON. ABNER STETSON, 3d.
The old Methodist Ship Builder of Damariscotta.
(A descendant of both Joseph and Captain Benjamin)

CAPTAIN FREDERICK J. STETSON.

Captain Frederick J. Stetson was born in Nobleboro, Maine, September 1, 1845. The son of Abner and Betsey Riggs Stetson and one of a family of eighteen children, thirteen of whom were married and had children. Five of the boys became sea captains.

At the age of fifteen years, Frederick enlisted in the war of the Rebellion, joining the Fourth Regiment, Maine Volunteers.

He was taken prisoner at the first battle of Bull Run and languished in Andersonville prison for sixteen long months, during which time, incredible as it may seem, he suffered a run of rheumatic fever. He was at length parolled, reaching home almost a total wreck.

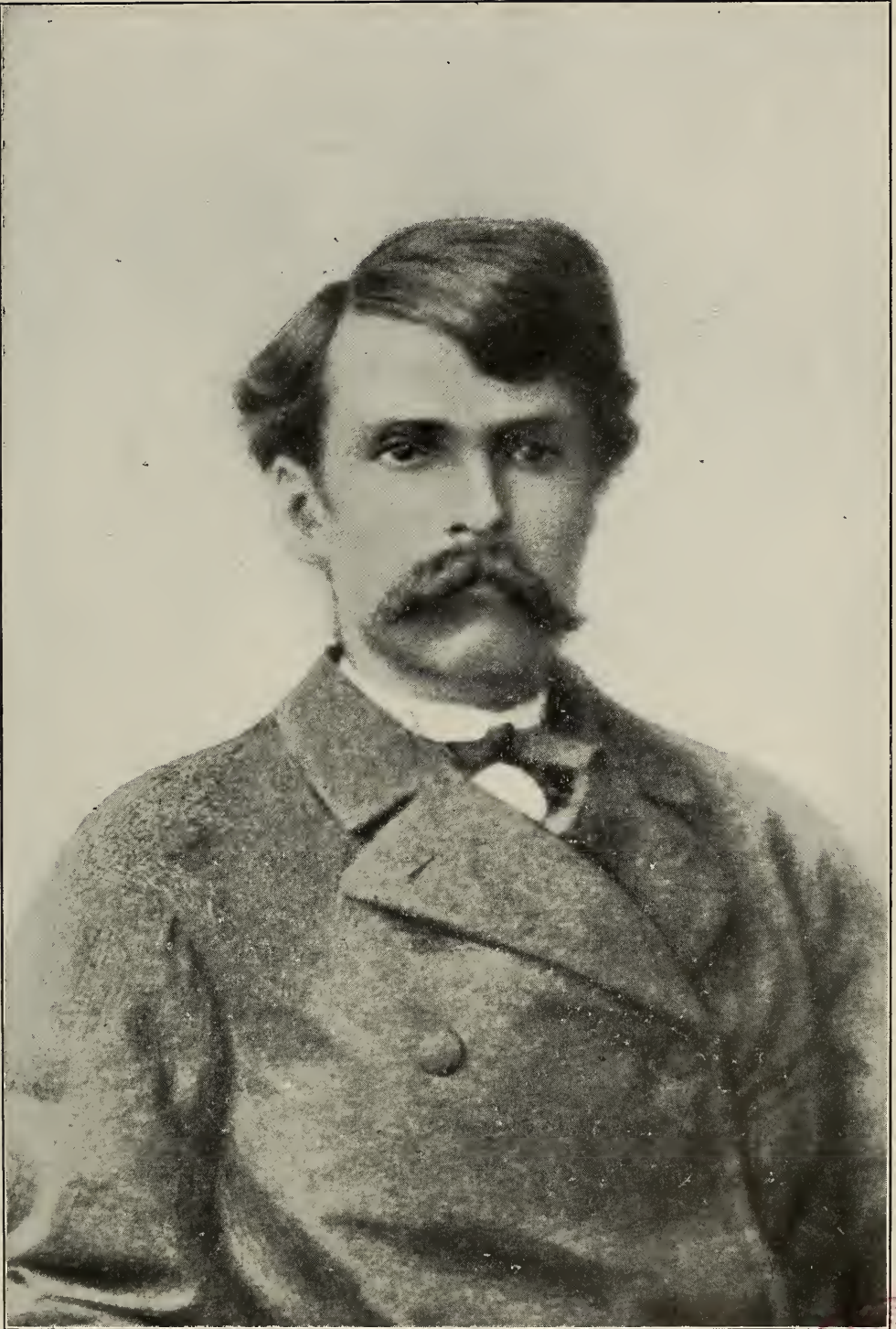
At the age of twenty two years he married Miss Augusta E. Simmons and soon after made several long voyages, taking Mrs. Stetson with him, on his father's ship the J. H. Stetson, named for an older brother.

For a time Capt. Stetson seemed to have in a large measure recovered his health, but before he had reached his thirty first year the rheumatism had returned in such a degree that he became a confirmed invalid.

Capt. Stetson's father, Abner Stetson 3rd, was born in New Castle, Maine, January 26, 1800, being one of a family of thirteen children. He worked on his father's farm until he was twenty one then learned the trade of a ship carpenter. At the age of thirty he began to build vessels on his own account at which he was very successful, building many large vessels, becoming a prominent citizen and the wealthiest man in the community. He was a drummer boy in the war of 1812 and his widow was one of the five remaining pensioners of that war at the time of her death.

Capt. Stetson's grandfather, Abner Stetson 2nd came to Maine from Scituate, Mass., in 1793, being the fourth generation from the Cornet, on his father's side via Joseph and fifth on his mother's side via Captain Benjamin. Both of these lines having lived in Scituate on a portion of the Cornet's original farm for one hundred fifty nine years. (See Page 59.)

The following is selected from the sketch of Mrs. Stetson in the National Cyclopedia of American Biography.



CAPT. FREDERICK J. STETSON

(From old picture.)

(A descendant of Joseph and Capt. Benjamin.)

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1897

"Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson, C.S.D., was born at Waldoboro, Me., the daughter of Peabody and Salome (Sprague) Simmons. Her mother was a woman of strong individuality, generous, sympathetic, unselfish, with deep-toned piety which permeated her every day life. Mrs. Stetson's father was an architect in Damariscotta. In middle life he removed to Boston, Massachusetts, where he continued his profession until he retired from business.

Mrs. Stetson is a descendant on her father's side of Samuel Symonds, one of the earliest settlers of Massachusetts who held at the time of his death the second place in the colonial government of Massachusetts."

During the year of 1673 he was made Deputy Governor and held this position until the time of his death in October, 1678.

Mrs. Stetson was educated at the Damariscotta High School and Lincoln Academy, Newcastle, Me. At fourteen years of age she became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and from then until her marriage she was the church organist. She lived with her parents until her marriage with Captain Frederick J. Stetson, which was solemnized in the church edifice her father had designed

A few months after their marriage, at the age of twenty-two, Captain Stetson began his business career in the interest of his father, Hon. Abner Stetson, who for many years had had business relations with Baring Bros., London, England. His business, that of ship broker, was carried on under the firm name of Frederick J. Stetson & Co., Havre, France. Thus Mrs. Stetson in her early youth enjoyed the advantages of extensive travel for nearly nine years. During her visit to Bombay, India, and Akyab, British Burmah, she wrote essays and poems which were printed in the "Arakan News." She also wrote for the papers in her own home in Massachusetts.

At the age of thirty-one, Capt. Stetson's health failed altogether. He retired from business, and until his decease made his home with Mrs. Stetson's parents.

At the time Capt. Stetson's health failed, Mrs. Stetson took up the study of elocution at the Blish School of Oratory in Boston, preparatory to becoming a public lecturer, and upon finishing her studies there, entered the Massachusetts Metaphysical College



AUGUSTA E. STETSON, C. S. D.

New York City

(Wife of Capt. Frederick J. Stetson.)

under the personal instruction of Mary Baker Eddy, the President of the College.

Mrs. Stetson was graduated from the Massachusetts Metaphysical College in 1886. In 1886 she was sent by Mrs. Eddy to New York City where she organized, with others, First Church of Christ, Scientist, in 1887: she was first preacher in the pulpit of that church until 1888 when she was made pastor, and preached from its pulpit until 1895 when the title of pastor was changed to that of First Reader in all Christian Science churches. She was elected by unanimous vote of the church to continue her office as First Reader and spiritual guide. She was, and continues to be the principal of the New York City Christian Science Institute, chartered in 1891. Mrs. Stetson raised \$1,250,000 to build the edifice of First Church of Christ, Scientist, New York City, at Ninety-sixth Street and Central Park West, and dedicated it free of debt immediately on its completion in 1903.

After twenty-five years of personal service in this church, Mrs. Stetson continues to be an active teacher and practitioner, and spiritual head of her church.

Mrs. Stetson is known to the world as a demonstrator of the teachings of Christian Science. The church edifice which she built and which stands as a tribute of love and gratitude to Mary Baker Eddy is the result of over twenty-five years of religious effort to establish Truth in the hearts of humanity, and it witnesses for her teaching and practice of Christian Science.

The Broadway Magazine for May 1907 writes thus of Mrs. Stetson:

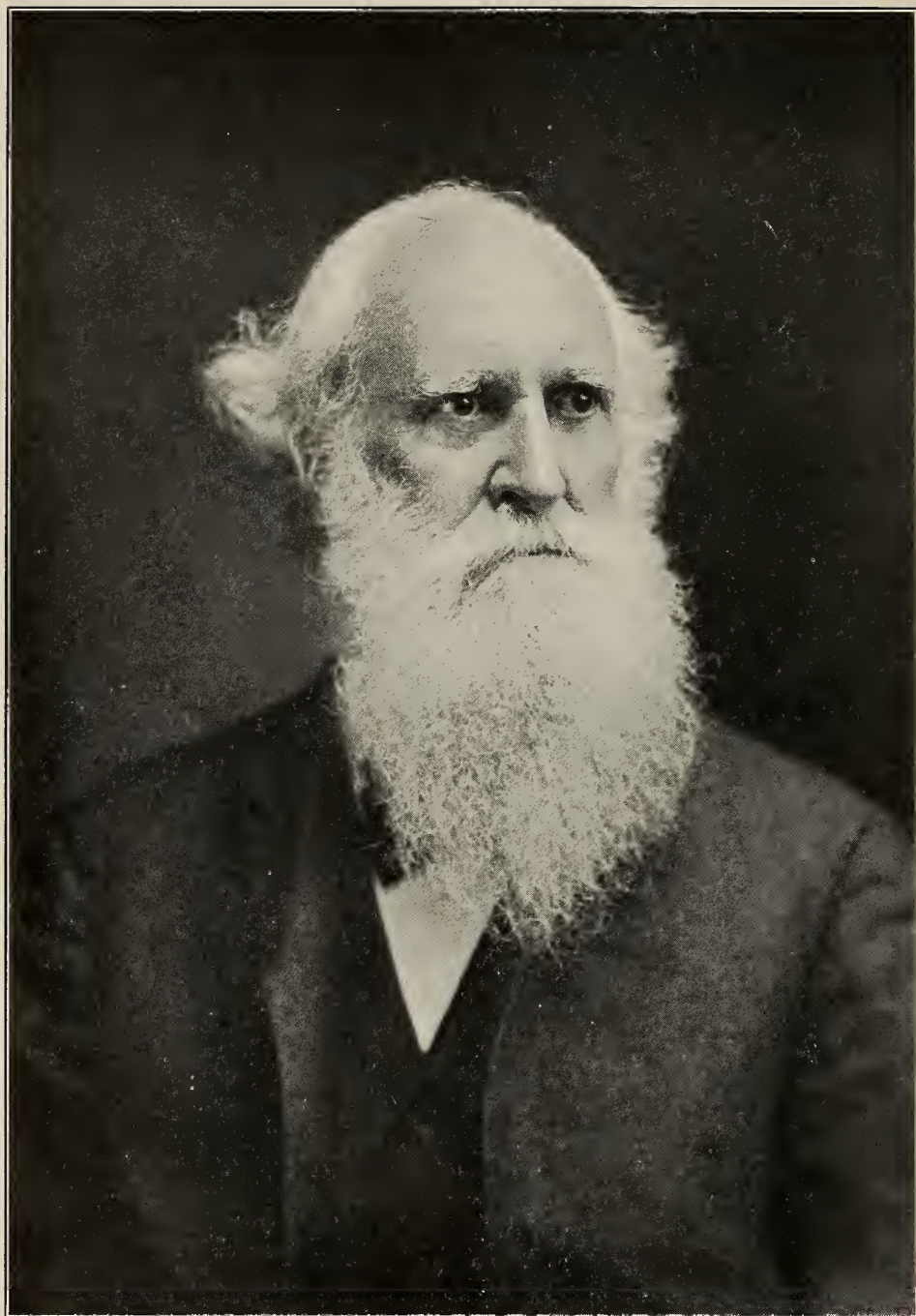
"Mrs. Stetson is a most remarkable woman — possessing a great mentality splendid energy, and a strength of character such as is only found in those who actually make epochs in the world's history. She has the air of one who has the courage of her convictions. She is the kind of woman who will defend what she believes to be the truth, no matter how long it takes or what obstacles or difficulties may happen or be thrust in her way.

"You feel all this the moment you meet the woman. You can read it in her unflinching deep-blue eyes, in her even, well modulated voice, her sturdy figure, and perfect poise. She is a general, every inch of her, and she breathes unlimited success and victory in each word and gesture."



ABNER STETSON HOUSE—Norwell, (Scituate) Mass.

Where Abner Stetson 2nd was born, July, 1771.



THOMAS DREW STETSON—Lawyer
New York City—A Director. (A descendant of Thomas.)

Thomas Drew Stetson was born in Kingston, Mass. May 30, 1827. He is the seventh generation from Cornet Stetson via Thomas (the Cornet's third son) and was the first in his line to leave the "Old Colony."



Mr. Stetson began his career as a machinist. In the early fifty's he became editor of "The Old Colony Reporter." The local organ of the Free Soil party published in North Bridgewater (now the city of Brockton Mass.)

He was a very strong Abolitionist and it is said that through his influence at a caucus held in Boston a compromise was effected in which the Free Soil party agreed to support the Democratic candidates provided they would all *pledge* themselves to vote in the house and senate for the abolitionist whom the "Free Soilers" should name for the United States Senate. At a critical moment when the measure seemed likely to be lost, young Stetson who had previously voted against the measure — sprung to his feet and in a short, energetic and eloquent address said that in view of the very extraordinary situation he would override his lifelong (twenty-two years) objection to compromise, and vote for the measure.

The effect was magnetic. The measure was carried, resulting in the election of Charles Sumner to the United States Senate. The sequel you all know. — A glance at the opposite page will convince us that Thomas Drew Stetson was equal to just such an emergency.

Probably Mr. Stetson was not at this time aware of the *fact* that Charles Sumner was also a descendent of Cornet Robert Stetson via Captain Benjamin.

Later Mr. Stetson became a Mechanical Draughtsman and in 1853, editor of "Appleton's Engineer's Journal" In 1855 he commenced business on the site of the present New York Times building, New York City, as a "Patent Solicitor and Expert." He acquired a national reputation, appearing before the United States Courts in many very important cases.

Mr. Stetson has been a lifelong Baptist and Prohibitionist, and is still very active in these lines although when this booklet reaches the "Kindred" he will have entered upon his eighty-eighth year.

Mr. Stetson rarely fails to meet yearly with the 'Kindred' at the "Shrine" and has — in his own words — "The greatest affection for the Old Colony — The land of his birth."



CLIFT ROGERS CLAPP—Lawyer
Boston, Mass.
(A descendant of Eunice Rogers.)



CLIFT ROGERS CLAPP.

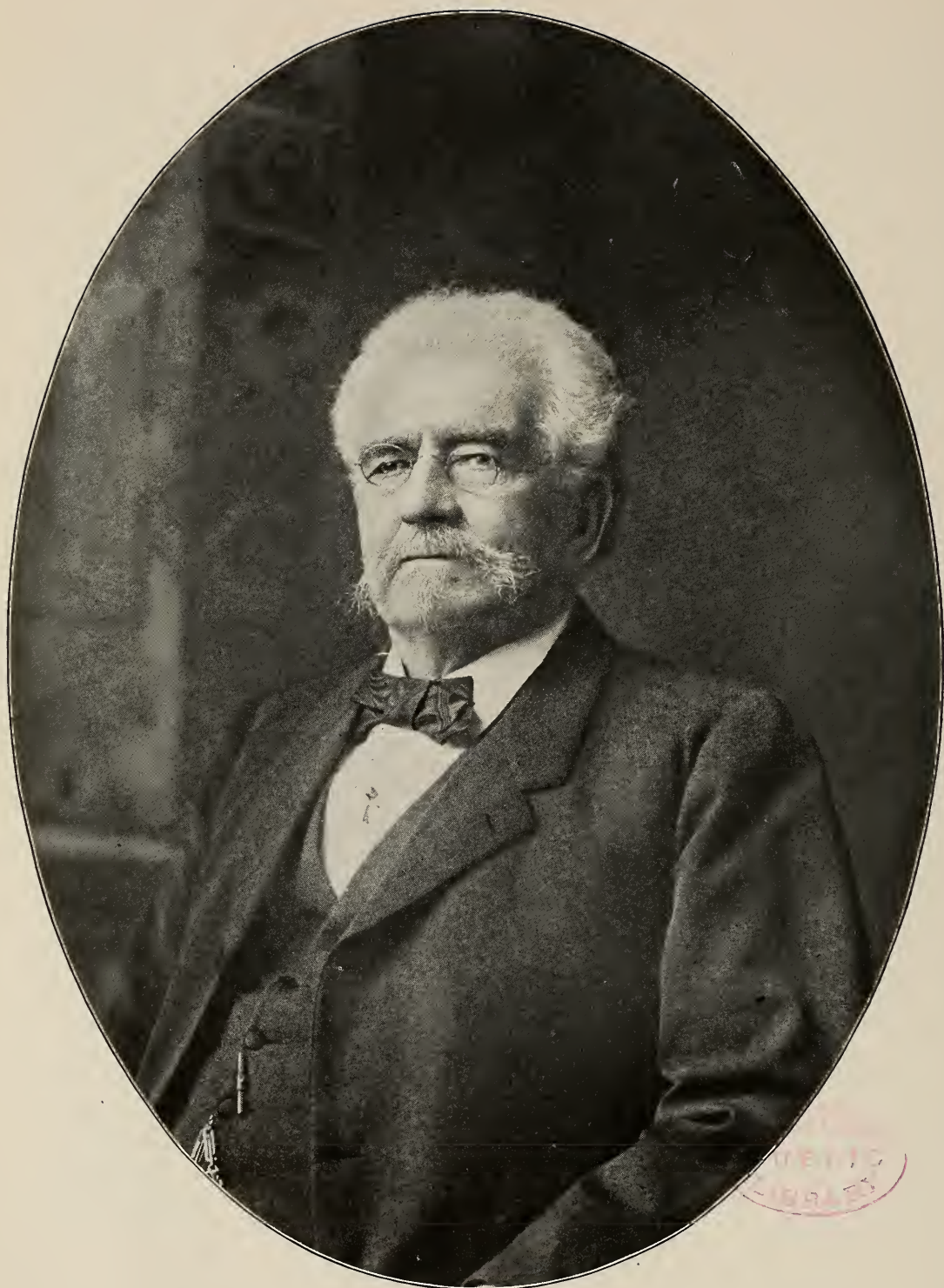
Many years ago, in the days of the old Cornet, there lived in Marshfield, just across the river, a young man named Timothy Rogers. That this Timothy early appreciated the sterling qualities of the Stetson race is shown by the fact that at the early age of nineteen he wooed and won the fair Eunice daughter of Cornet Stetson, who was only twenty-six days his junior. If we doubt that Eunice was comely we have only to see the Rogers maidens of today, for from this union of two hundred forty five years ago (1670) there came according to the various town records, ten children, forty nine grand children and great grand children innumerable.

On the occasion of our president's first visit to the Cornets old home (quite an important event by the way, in its bearings on the history of our organization) Mr. Clift Rogers Clapp so far accepted Mr. Gorham's invitation to join the party, as to follow with his family in a private carriage and join us at lunch, insisting however that it was "too bad to spoil a Stetson party." Subsequently it was discovered that Mr. Clapp was the *eighth generation from Eunice Rogers*, each generation bearing the name Rogers. (Plate 6)

Mr. Clapp is a prominent Boston lawyer, a graduate from Harvard and was for many years a partner with Mr. Robert Stetson Gorham. He was born in Scituate in 1861, and in 1892 married Miss Gertrude Blanchard. They have had three children.

Clift Rogers Clapp is the son of Howard Clapp and Abigail Frances Rogers. On his fathers side he is descended from Samuel Clapp who served nine years as deputy from Scituate to the Plymouth Colony Court, the longest term of service of any deputy from Scituate excepting Cornet Stetson who served seventeen years. The last term before the union of the colonies he served with Captain Benjamin Stetson.

Later he was chosen thirteen times to represent Scituate at the general court at Boston, being three times succeeded by Captain Benjamin Stetson.



HENRY A. PEVEAR

Lynn, Mass.

(A descendant of Joseph.)

Since deceased aged 86 years.

HENRY A. PEVEAR

Henry A. Pevear was born at Tewksbury, Mass., September 13, 1828. The son of Burnham and Mary Ann Stetson Pevear. On September 16, 1847, he was married to Sarah Ellen Orr. They were an exceptionally congenial couple, and their sixty-two years of married life were exceptionally happy years.

Their family consisted of four boys and two girls. Henry Theodore and William Augustus have been dealers in real estate. Frederick Stetson Pevear (now retired) was for sixteen years president of the First National Bank of Lynn, while John Burnham Pevear, the youngest is General Manager of The General Electric Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. Emma Lathrop died May 3, 1905, and Mary Anna remains unmarried. Mr. Pevear has twelve grandchildren and fourteen great grand children living.

Mr. Pevear began business when very young and with very small capital, but by close attention to business, eventually became one of the most successful business men in Massachusetts. At the time of his withdrawal from business in 1900 he was, and had been for many years the leading Morocco manufacturer in New England.

Mr. Pevear was the first and only president of the Thompson-Huston Electric Company, occupying this position until the company merged with the "General Electric." He was also for thirteen years president of the Lynn Five Cent Savings Bank.

He avoided politics, however he was once chosen alderman but declined to serve.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Pevear have always been interested in philanthropic work and in 1900, he established and endowed the "Stetson Home for Orphan Boys" at Barre in memory of his mother. Many boys have already here received the education of a Christian New England home. The name was given the home to preserve the maiden name of Mr. Pevear's mother.

On March, 1904, Mr. Pevear gave to the "Boston Baptist Social Union" his former Summer home at Shirley, as a retreat for needy mothers and their children during the hot months. The only condition being that it should be called "The Marianna Home for Weary Mothers and Their Offsprings." The estate consists of twenty acres of land with buildings, including store and Post

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Stetson Home, Barre, Mass.

The gift of Henry A. Pevear in memory of his mother, Mary Ann Stetson. The above it the largest of the several buildings at the home.

Office. The income from which helps maintain the Home.

One of Mr. Pevear's much appreciated gifts was the Dr. Baker Estate, which he purchased at a cost of \$13,000 and gave to the "Home for Aged Couples."

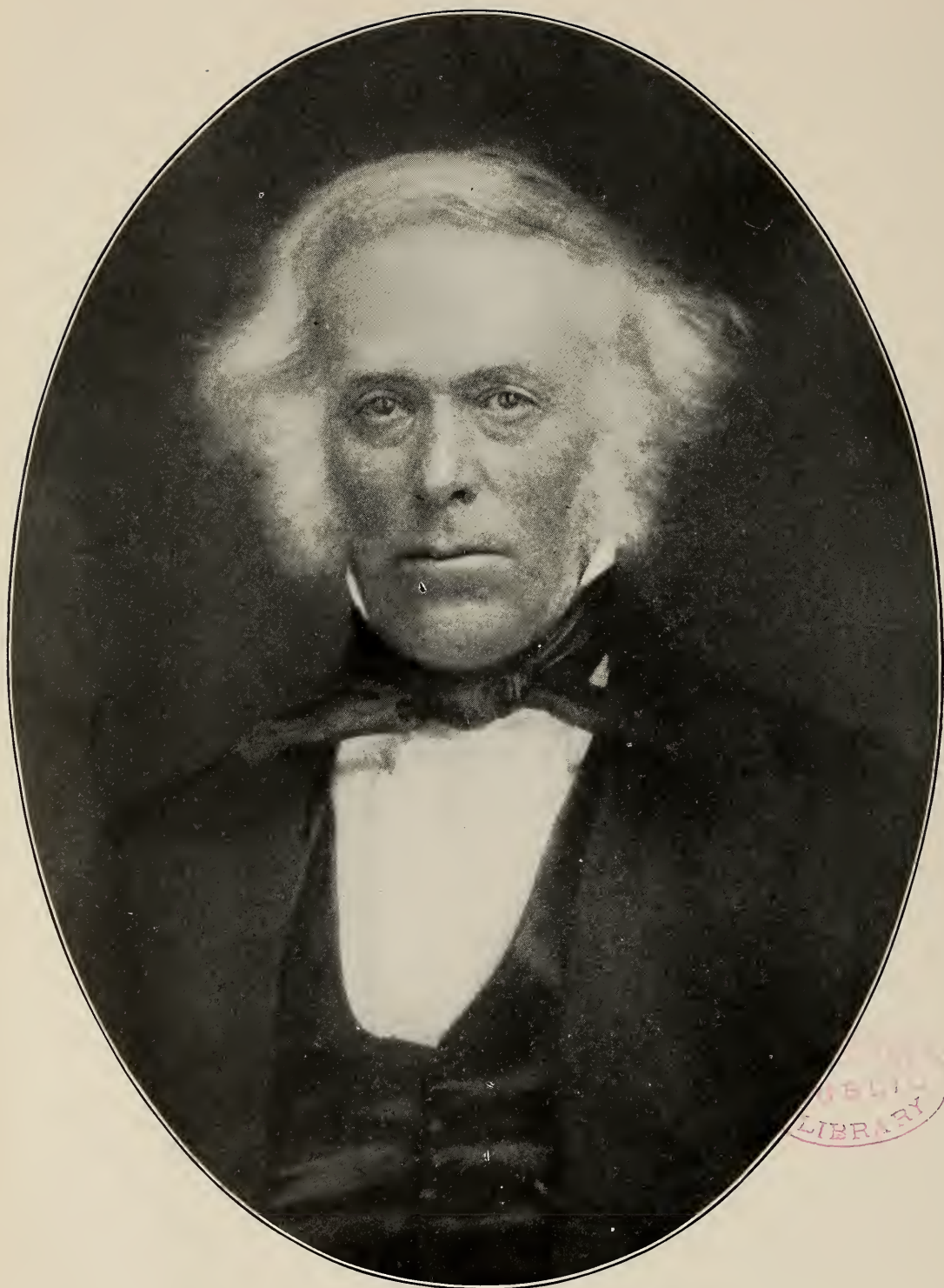
Mr. Pevear's latest public gift is to the City of Lynn — a children's hospital — now in process of erection. This is to be a beautiful three story brick building, thirty-five feet by ninety-one feet with all the appointments and conveniences of a modern hospital and is given by Mr. Pevear in memory of his wife, Sarah Ellen Pevear.

Mrs. Pevear was one of the originators of the movement for the Lynn Hospital, and Mr. Pevear believes that the building of a children's hospital, is just what the wife and mother would most wish him to do, were she alive.

Mary Ann Stetson was the daughter of Jesse Stetson and grand daughter of Amos Stetson who was born in Scituate, June 9, 1741 — the fourth generation from Cornet Stetson via Joseph. It will thus be seen that Henry A. Pevear is the seventh generation from the Cornet via Joseph. He narrowly escaped being a descendant of Sergeant Samuel Stetson also, for Gideon, the father of Amos, married for his first wife, Molly (Mary) Pitcher, a granddaughter of Sergeant Samuel Stetson, and Gideon the older brother of Amos, was a descendant of both Joseph and Samuel.

The family of Jesse Stetson was a truly remarkable one, but being a family of six girls, the name Stetson in the line of Jesse, disappeared with him. Mary Ann Stetson, the mother of Henry A. Pevear, was a woman of fine education and rare accomplishments and devoted much time to the education of her sons. Her sister Rebecca Stetson, three years younger, was a woman of extensive education and rare culture and for many years taught successfully in the Female Seminary at Charlestown.

Mrs. Mary A. Livermore in a letter to Mr. Pevear says of her, "She was one of the most wonderful women I ever knew and the influence which she exerted over the school during her visit after she ceased to be a teacher was felt for weeks afterwards. Rebecca Stetson married Rev. Nicholas Medbury and was the mother of Mrs. Steele Mackaye and grand mother of the very distinguished family of Mackayes of whom Percy Mackaye the leading dramatic poet of America is one.



JOHN SMEDLEY STETSON—1860

THE CHAMPLAIN STETSONS.

BY FRANCIS LYNDE STETSON

The descendants of Robert Stetson and of Reuben Stetson who settled in the town of Champlain, New York, in 1800, trace their lineage from the Cornet through his great grandson Robert of Hanover (18)* and his wife Hannah Turner, and by reference to their son Bachelor Stetson (47), who, as told me in 1872 by my father's sister Lois, was the brother of her grandfather, Robert Stetson of Hardwick.

Cornet Robert's eldest son Joseph (11) had a second son Robert (9), born 9 December, 1670. He was a cordwainer and a constable in Hanover (Barry pp. 17-21). He married Mary Collamore, daughter of Captain Anthony Collamore and Sarah Chittenden. He died in Hanover aged ninety years (Barry's History of Hanover), that is, in 1760. He had eight children, of whom the youngest was Robert (18), born September 3 and baptized September 10, 1710, (Barry pp. 17-21).

This Robert (18), great grandson of the Cornet, m. Hannah Turner (not Tower as stated by Barry p. 2) November 25, 1738, lived in Hanover. He died there *February 27, 1768*. Barry mistakenly states (p. 21) that "the date of his death is not known." By an error in copying, now obvious, he assigns this date of death to the eldest son Robert of Hardwick, named in the succeeding line of his record.

The fact of this error has been established by the researches of our kins woman, Miss Susey A. Smith, who upon April 24, 1914, examined the Plymouth Records (Probate Vol. 20, p. 311; Deeds Vol. 2, fol. 21) of the estate of Robert's (18) second son Reuben "Mariner", who died January 24, 1769. In the probate records she found a charge for the care of Robert (18) in his last illness, which must have been after the birth of his youngest daughter Jemima (December 24, 1763). This charge was by the widow Hannah (Turner), who deeded to David Stockbridge the homestead in Hanover, as described by Barry (p. 21). This Hannah *Turner* who was married November 25, 1738, (see Hanover Records pp. 23-24; Rockland Standard 1898), is called by Barry, Hannah *Tower*, but in fact as shown in the Pembroke Marriage Records

* The numbers in brackets are from Barry's Genealogy.

in possession of Miss Susey Smith she was Hannah *Turner*, the ancestress of the Reverend H. L. Stetson, President of Kalamazoo College. Two letters to Miss Smith, one by him dated January 30, 1902, and one by another descendant, Mr. W. Scott Smith, of the United States Interior Department, Washington, dated February 4, 1904, bear upon this point. Mr. Smith states, "Robert Stetson my great-great grandfather died in Hanover, Massachusetts, February 27, 1768, and his widow Hannah remained there until 1785 when she removed to Sylvester. Of the seven children, three, we know, removed to Maine; Martha Stetson Brewster, her sister Jemima (who married James Samson, and lived in Bridgeton) and Bachelor Stetson, who lived in Greene." Barry (p. 21) names this Bachelor (47) but knows nothing more of him except that he moved to Maine in 1791, and that he lived there until his death in 1826. He married Margaret Nash and had four children, of whom the third bore the family name Turner (the grandfather of President Herbert L. Stetson). The unusual name Bachelor is significant, as in 1872 my father's sister Lois told me that her father had a brother "Bachelor, who moved to Maine," thus establishing our connection with his family and with his mother, whom all his descendants knew as Hannah *Turner*. This venerable lady (misnamed "*Tower*" by Barry p. 21) died late in 1801 or early in 1802.

Now, coming back to Hannah Turner's husband, Robert of Hanover (18), great grandson of the Cornet, we find that he had a son Robert, born in Hanover May 8, and baptized there May 18, 1740. Barry says that he died February 27, 1768, which, as already shown, was the date of the death of his father in Hanover.

This Robert (whom we call Robert *of Hardwick*) married Lydia Rich, daughter of Samuel Rich of Truro (who had twenty-four children). Miss Smith read the baptismal records of thirteen of them. She died at my grandfather's home in Champlain January 3, 1819, and is buried in the cemetery at Shute's Corners in that town.

Robert and Lydia lived first in Scituate, where they had five children (Henry, *Hannah*, Thomas, Rachel and Lydia) and then — about 1770 — moved to Hardwick, Worcester County, Massachusetts, where they had seven children (*Robert*, Susanna, *Reuben*, Betsey, Thomas, Elijah, Sally). The recurrence of the three names

Robert, Reuben and Hannah is confirmatory of the connection of the family of this Robert of *Hardwick* with that of his father Robert of *Hanover* (18) as given by Barry (p. 21).

Robert of Hardwick died there January 18, 1814, aged seventy-four, thus again identifying him with the Robert who was born in Hanover May 8, 1740, (Barry p. 21). His tombstone in excellent condition in the old church yard at Hardwick and bearing the inscription "Mr. Robert Stetson died 18 January, 1814, Aet 73" was seen by Miss Smith on May 4, 1914. (See also Paige's *History of Hardwick*, p. 507.)*

The removal from Scituate to Hardwick of this family (as well as of several other families of Stetsons mentioned by Paige) was explained by my aunt Lois in 1872 when she told me that Lydia Rich said that the Stetson wives thought and said that "enough of the men had been drowned at sea and they would move inland where such things could not happen."

After the death of her husband in 1814 the widow Lydia Rich Stetson came to Bridport, Vermont, to visit her daughter Susanna Graves¹ (previously Bascom, mother of Mrs. John G. Saxe and

*In his notes (5 on p. 507) Paige erroneously supposes Barry to have been mistaken in stating on his page 24 (31) that Ezra's daughter Hannah m. White of Fairhaven. Barry was correct. It was not she, but my great-aunt Hannah, born in Scituate, daughter of my great grandfather Robert (who later moved to Hardwick), that m. Solomon Hinds of Greenwich. Later she moved to Brandon, Vt., and after the death of Mr. Hinds m. Andrew Nelson and had three children.

(1) Sophia Bascom, daughter of Susanna Stetson Bascom (second husband Eleazar Graves) married Judge Calvin Sollace, of Bridgeport, Vt. (b. Walpole, N. H., 9 May 1787; his mother was a Stetson); Sophia's two daughters married: Sophia Newell, John Godfrey Saxe and Sarah Storrs, James Saxe. John Godfrey Saxe left two sons, John Theodore and Charles Gordon. John T. married his cousin Mary Sollace Bosworth (daughter of Judge Joseph S. Bosworth of New York) and died July 1881. He left one son John Godfrey Saxe, a lawyer in New York, late State Senator and now Counsel to Governor Glynn. He married June 10, 1909, Mary Sands of New York City. Charles Gordon married Ellen Merwin Saxe of Madison, New Jersey, and died March 16, 1893, leaving Laura Hulda, wife of Morris Wheless (of Augusta, Georgia, now connected with the New York Tribune); Charles Merwin of Niagara Falls; Jessie Ellen, wife of Allen T. Clement (formerly of Rutland, Vt., now of New York City); Ellen Mildred of Niagara Falls, and others now dead. Sarah (Mrs. James Saxe) after the death of her husband at St. Albans, Vt., on June 15, 1884, moved to Montreal, Canada, where she still resides 86 years of age, her living children being Elizabeth Sophia, born Sept. 18, 1854, married July 15, 1873, John B. Holmes of Cambridge, Mass.; Fanny M. born May 6, 1860; Mary born Feb. 24, 1865; Charles Jewett (Architect) born May 6, 1870, all now unmarried and residing with their mother in Montreal. The remaining son Frank J. born at St. Albans, July 2, 1854, married Oct. 30, 1911. Mrs. Mary Mickle Reynolds, daughter of the late Andrew H. Mickle (former Mayor of New York) and resides at Flushing, Long Island.



LEMUEL STETSON—1858

Mrs. James Saxe), but went back to Hardwick for a period of uncertain duration, and then came to live with her son Reuben in his home in Champlain, where, as already stated, she died January 23, 1819.

In or about the year 1799 Robert and Reuben, the two eldest sons of Robert of Hardwick, purchased land in the southeasterly part of the town of Champlain, New York, where their families continued for more than a century, part of the tract being owned now by me and part by the venerable widow of my uncle Thomas.

The eldest son Robert (2nd of Hardwick) married Ida Crossett about 1794 and (having had ten children*) died October 2, 1814, from wounds received in the battle of Lundy's Lane. His eldest son Robert (born April 7, 1797, died November 9, 1884) also served in the war of 1812, as did also my grandfather Reuben. Robert of Champlain married Amanda Beach (of Saratoga) and had twelve children, Zerah Beach, Augustus Buel, Elizabeth Matilda, Melinda Alice, Hannah Mary Gorham (mother of Robert Stetson Gorham, who died June 18, 1813); Cynthia Maria, Minerva Matilda, Hiram Wolcott (died June 27, 1911, a gentleman of sterling worth and large business interests. Clerk of Clinton County, New York, from 1864 to 1868); Martha Amelia (Brown); Phebe Amanda (the sole survivor, now living in Burlington, Vermont), and Martin Van Buren (who married Ellen Cook of Champlain and died January 24, 1914, the City Clerk at Amsterdam, New York, leaving two sons and two daughters). He served in the Civil War as Captain of the 118th New York, serving from August, 1862 until the surrender of Lee. He was a gallant soldier and a Christian gentleman of the highest character.

Reuben (my grandfather) the second son of Robert of Hardwick, was born there March 23, 1775, and in 1799 accompanied his elder brother to Champlain and bought the land above mentioned. In July, 1801, he went to Cornwall, Vermont, and there married Lois Smedley, the eighteen year old daughter of John Smedley, Junior, and Elizabeth Williams, of Williamstown, Massachusetts.

*Children of Robert Stetson and Ida Crossett his wife: Betsey (Bresee), Robert, Jacob, Isabel (Hawkins), Lydia (Hawkins), Sarah (Wolcott), Hannah Melinda (Andruss), Matilda, Reuben Rich.

(1) He died August 25, 1838, and she on August 31, 1866. Each is buried in the cemetery at Shute's Corners, Champlain. They had thirteen children, John Smedley, 1802-1862, (m. Cynthia Beach, sister of Robert's wife), Lemuel, 1804-1868, (m. Helen Hascall), Lois, 1806-1885, Reuben Rich, 1808-1836, William, 1810-1851, George W., 1812-1813, George W. 2nd, 1814-1880, (m. 1st, Mary Porter, 2nd, Anna Barlow), Mary, 1818-1842, Maria, 1820-1887, (m. Roderick Bosworth Oct., 1849), unnamed infant, Benjamin Franklin, 1824-1903, (m. Mariette Hilliard), Thomas Jefferson, 1826-1903, (m. Mary E. Bosworth), Samuel, 1831-1905, (m. Ellen Boise of Plymouth, Ohio). It will be noted that the youngest son was born twenty-nine years after the oldest, and when his mother was forty-eight years of age. She was a woman of great force of character and of unusual vigor of mind and body. Her spinning wheel paid a large part of the cost of the land which her husband cultivated after clearing off the forest which he converted into potash and marketed in Montreal.

The movement to the western shore of Lake Champlain at the end of the eighteenth century began from Poughkeepsie with the Baileys, the Treadwells, the Smiths, the Averills and the Walworths under the lead of Zephaniah Platt, and was followed by a considerable immigration from New England. The Hascalls came from Pawlet, Vermont, to Essex and Malone; the Lyndes from Massachusetts to Willsborough and thence to Plattsburgh; the Hands from Shoreham, Vermont, to Elizabethtown; the Hubbells from Lanesboro, Massachusetts, to Chazy and the Village of Champlain, where also settled the Moores, the Whitesides and the Nyes. The western shore of Lake Champlain was really an extension of New England.

In the southeastern quarter of the town of Champlain there was thus established a fine New England community among whom were conspicuous the Dunnings, the Dickinsons and the Stetsons, neighbors on the "State road" within sight of the Lake and Isle La Motte during all of the nineteenth century. French Canadians following ancestors who failed to uphold French grants made prior to 1763 now occupy these beautiful lowlands, but the fine

*The Smedley connection is shown in Professor Perry's "Origins in Williamstown" (p. 569) Charles Scribner's Sons 1894.



HELEN HASCALL STETSON—1858
Wife of Lemuel Stetson.

memories of these New Englanders abide though their descendants are scattered throughout the United States. The original establishment of this community after the close of the Revolutionary War was due to the opening up of the lands which has been claimed under French titles granted prior to the Peace of Paris in 1763 and which became the subject of the important litigations in the Courts of New York resulting in the establishment of the Patent granted by New York July 11, 1769, to Elkanah Dean (*Jackson v. Ingraham*, 4 Johnson 163; *Jackson v. Waters*, 12 Johns. 365; *La Frombois v. Jackson*, 8 Con. 589). The farm of my grandfather was part of Dean's Patent and one of his neighbors was La Frombois, whose descendants may still be found there under the name of Berry, an English adaptation of their patronymic.

Of Reuben's eight sons who attained maturity, three, John Smedley, Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson, spent their entire lives on these Champlain farms. They were all men of character, highly regarded by their kinsfolk and neighbors. John Smedley justified and dignified his position as eldest son and was the connecting link with the family of his cousin Robert, whose wife Amanda Beach was sister of his wife Cynthia Beach. His never-failing kindness and sagacity made him a revered leader in the community, as may readily be inferred from a consideration of his noble countenance. He purchased and cultivated up to his death in 1862 a fine farm adjoining his father's. He left one son, Smith, who married Mary Corbin of Champlain and left one daughter Mary Stetson Buckman, who moved to San Francisco. He left also two daughters, Marion, who married Colonel Franklin Palmer of Plattsburgh and died without issue, and Helen, who married Eleazar J. Larkin of Plattsburgh and died leaving two daughters, Caroline Larkin Baker, of Plattsburgh, and Marion Larkin Brown, of Hoosac, New York.

Benjamin Franklin (7th son) was the friend of every man, woman and child in his community. To the end of his long life he was "Ben" to all, and he never failed to answer a call for personal service and assistance. He loved a good story, and could tell one, and he loved a good dinner and could cook one. No community gathering, feast or funeral, was complete without him. On that day in June, 1903, when his neighbors were rendering



BENJAMIN F. STETSON

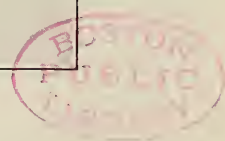
him their last tribute of affectionate regard, one of them could not refrain from exclaiming "How Ben would enjoy this if he could know how his friends have gathered about him." For almost fourscore years he and his brother Thomas (whom he survived only a few months) had lived together or within a few hundred feet of each other, landmarks and beacon lights for the neighborhood, which they loved and which loved them.

Benjamin left his widow still living in Burlington, Vermont, with her daughters, Carrie Adelia (m. Wm. Ira Winter) and Helen Brownell. Carrie had one daughter Elizabeth (wife of Lyman C. Hurd of Burlington) who has three children, Elizabeth, Helen and Lyman. Reuben, eldest son of Benjamin, living at Greenfield, Massachusetts, married Margaret A. Barber and has three children, Charles H. living in Albany, N. Y., who married Anna Elizabeth Veronica Flanagan, Lizzie May and Earl F. Stetson. The second son Benjamin F. Stetson, proprietor of Deer's Head Inn, Elizabethtown, N. Y., married Apr. 2, 1902, Carrie E. Lyman. The second daughter, Lucia, married Aug. 22, 1894, Edward W. Northrup of Cleveland, Ohio, where she now lives.

No words can exaggerate the sturdy, simple worth of the eighth son, Thomas Jefferson Stetson, who died February 9, 1903, in his seventy-eighth year on the farm where he was born. Married in 1858 to his noble hearted neighbor Mary Bosworth, who still survives, and having no children of their own they adopted and brought up successive generations who adore their memories and bear testimony to their virtues. Industrious and busy as he was as an intelligent farmer whose lands never cried out against him, he was also a man of large and varied reading and given to reflection and shrewdly-wise comment. No subject failed to interest him, or through him those with whom he came into conversation. Spending the summer of 1868 in his family, after our college graduation, Hamilton Mabie and I formed a high estimate of his strength of mind and character, and of his genial philosophic spirit, an estimate undimmed in our retrospect of nearly fifty years. Under his kindly care every animal on the place, colt, calf, dog or cat became gentle, many of them representing the breeding of generations, since as a little boy he took them in hand. The children from all homes loved to gather about him in the house or in the



THOMAS J. STETSON



fields. He never sought or held any office, though he was capable of rendering admirable public service and was the chosen adviser of his neighborhood. He stood in his lot to the end of his days and his neighbors rose and called him blessed. Such characters are the real basis of our American development. One simple incident is worthy of narration as illustrative of his "sweet reasonableness."

In 1875 the extension of the New York and Canada Railroad northeasterly from West Chazy to Rouses Point passed almost through his door yard and close to his stock barns about thirty rods north of his house. Two years later I asked him "Uncle Thomas, how do you like the railroad passing so near your home? "I like it," he answered. "I was paid for the right of way which I would have given rather than have no railroad. I'll tell you what it means to me. Some winter morning just at daybreak I look out and wonder whether I can face the driving snow, and go to the barns to feed the stock. Suddenly, while I am shrinking, I hear a mighty sound, and in a moment there rushes northward the brightly lighted Montreal Express from distant New York City taking no heed of wind or snow or weather. Do you think that I can doubt any longer? No, my heart is made strong by this token of the vigor of other men, and out I go, strengthened to do a man's work."

Just tribute was paid to his memory in the obituary notice written by his nephew and adopted son Lieutenant Frederic T. Stetson (U. S. A. retired) and published in the Plattsburgh Sentinel, from which I make the following extract:

"Thomas J. Stetson is survived by his wife, Mary Bosworth, whom he married in 1857. With no children of his own, he nevertheless stood in the place of a father to three nephews, a niece and one other child, three of whom are living and feel deeply their great loss.

"His mental attainments were of no ordinary character, being of a studious disposition and endowed with a mind of unusual capacity, he early in life arrived at such a degree of self culture, that he impressed every man of intellect with whom he came in contact. His mind was one vast storehouse of useful knowledge; and he was gifted with a faculty of ready comprehension

of the most profound subjects, and with the power of imparting to others in conversation an abstract of his researches, greatly elucidated by his own wealth of accurate and far-reaching information.

“As a man, there was none more true and honorable in all the relations of life, — a faithful husband, an affectionate relative and a kind and generous friend, greatly beloved by all who knew him; and his loss is deeply mourned by all. As was said of his first ancestor in this country, so it may be said of him: ‘He lived long and left a good name at the last.’ ”

He and his brother Benjamin, who survived him but a few months, are buried next each other in the cemetery at Champlain Village, a spot to which turn tenderly the thoughts of many who loved them both.

Along with them for more than fifty years had lived their sister Lois who died in 1881 at the age of seventy-nine, with her beautiful head of hair as full and as brown as in her girlhood. Never marrying, she was the loving sister and aunt to all of her brothers and sisters and their children after them. She would spare herself neither suffering nor trouble to serve them, and from the abundance of her well stored mind lavished upon them her wisdom as well as her love. From her accurate memory, in August, 1872, I received the traditions which I then recorded in the memorandum still in my possession.

The sixth son, George W., moved to Ohio, and later to Vermont and finally to Pennsylvania, dying as a minister in the Christian Church. He was married twice; *first* to Mary Porter, (d. Pittsburg Pa., 1855) by whom he had two children, Mary Catharine (b. Pittsburg, Feb. 8, 1847. d. Plattsburg, Oct. 12, 1901) and Charles Porter, and *second* to Anna Barlow, by whom he had one son George W., (b. Sept. 16, 1860, Fitchville, Ohio), at one time Postmaster of Cambridgeborough, Pa. He married May 27, 1885, Elizabeth A. Root. He died Sept. 15, 1905, at Cambridge Springs, Pa., leaving two sons, Ellery Justin (b. Feb. 16, 1887, lawyer of Cambridge Springs, and Arthur, (b. Jan. 9, 1897.) Mary Catharine married Ira Thew of West Plattsburgh and died, leaving three children, Marion Kate, Mary Stetson and Frederick G. Charles Porter (b. Cleveland, O., April 25, 1849) married Jennie Elizabeth



RALPH HASCALL STETSON—1858

Norcross of Plattsburgh (d. Nov. 19, 1896) and died Brushton, N. Y., Nov. 10, 1891, leaving one daughter, Ethel Catherine, who married Burton V. Peck, and lives in St. Louis Park, Minnesota.

The second daughter Maria married October 11, 1849, Roderick Bosworth of Champlain, and died August 27 1887, leaving three children, Herbert S. Bosworth of Schenectady, (b. Aug. 1861, m. Lena Buckell), Martha M. of Champlain (b. Oct. 7, 1852,) m. Joseph B. Whitman,—children, Charles H., Alice M., Julius B. Helen M. and Henry of Morrisonville, N. Y. (m. Millie C. Corbin.)

Samuel, the youngest and the thirteenth child, was born April 18, 1839, and died in Hastings, Nebraska, February 1905. He married 1883 in Plymouth, Ohio, Ellen Boise, who died in Albert Lea, Minn., in 1873, leaving five children, (1) Lois, b. 1864, m. Eugene Skinner of Los Angeles, Cal., where she lives with two children, Eugene and Edna; (2) Ralph, b. 1866, m. 1890, and lives in Lincoln, Neb., where he has one son; (3) John Smedley, b. 1867, m. 1896, Martha Ann Hubbell of Chazy, N. Y., where he now practices medicine, having two daughters, Helen, b. 1902, and Martha, b. 1908; (4) Frederick Thomas, U. S. A. retired, b. 1868, m. 1892, Sophie May Stevenson of Chazy, who lives in Plattsburgh, N. Y., with three sons, Allyn Fillmore, b. 1893, and Raymond Rich, b. 1894, (both in Williams College), and Francis Lynde, b. 1907 (5) Lemuel Charles, b. 1872, m. now
living in Los Angeles.

All of the children of Rueben Stetson and most of their descendants had brown hair, blue eyes and fine ruddy complexions.

None of the other children of Reuben Stetson married or left descendants excepting the second son Lemuel, to whom and to whose family the remainder of this article will be devoted.

No other descendant of Cornet Robert Stetson bearing the family patronymic attained the public distinction of Lemuel Stetson, born at Champlain, March 13, 1804, and died at Plattsburgh May 17, 1868, although the only reference to him in Barry's record is to be found in the curt note (on p. 115) that "There is a Stetson living in New York State who has been a representative to Congress." As the record was published in 1847 and Lemuel Stetson's term in Congress had then only recently ended (March 4, 1845) it is strange that Mr. Barry did not then institute inquiry

by correspondence which would have procured from the widow and family of Reuben Stetson and from his nephew Robert, then living, full and accurate information concerning the Champlain Stetsons.

Lemuel, from early boyhood exhibited marked ability and an interest in study, pursuing an education in the public schools and at Plattsburgh Academy (where his wife and his four sons also were educated) but still identifying himself with the farm and bearing his part in its cultivation, assisting his father in carrying the potash to Montreal. He was pursuing this farm life without purpose of change, when on a day in or near the year 1824, he was asked by his important neighbor "Squire" Julius Caesar Hubbell of Chazy, "Stetson, why don't you study law? You can do better as a lawyer than as a farmer." After a brief period of reflection he determined to act upon the suggestion and he entered the office first of Julius C. Hubbell, then that of Henry K. Averill of Rouse's Point and finally that of John Lynde of Plattsburgh, then one of the most eminent of the lawyers and citizens of Northern New York. In the family of Judge Lynde he met Helen Hascall, niece of Mrs. Lynde and daughter of Ralph Hascall (deceased).^{*} a pioneer lawyer and public man of Essex and his wife Mary Sterne[†] formerly of Claremont, New

^{*}Ralph Hascall, son of Joseph Hascall (of West Killingly, Conn.) and Allis Fitch (She was from Canterbury, Conn. and sixth in descent from Governor William Bradford), was born in Bennington, Vt., Sept. 19, 1775, removed to Pawlet in 1785, and thence to Essex, N. Y. dying on July 26, 1823. He was a lawyer of eminence and served in the New York Assembly and Senate. Referring to him as member of the Senate in 1818, Hammond says, (1 Political History of N. Y. p. 453): "A more pure and scrupulously honest man than Ralph Hascall never lived." He served in the battle of Plattsburgh notwithstanding the parting injunction of his wife, tolerant of June trainings but averse to real war, "Ralph, when they begin to shoot bullets, come straight home." (See "Pawlet for One Hundred Years" by Hiel. Hollister, J. Munsell, Albany, 1867).

[†] Mary Sterne was born in Claremont, New Hampshire, May 5, 1779, daughter of Dr. Thomas Sterne, who was born in Worcester, Mass., and married Sarah, daughter of the Rev. Charles Gleason of Dudley, Mass. He moved to Claremont in 1768 and built the finest house in the vicinity. He was first physician in the place and served as Surgeon of Bellows Regiment at Ticonderoga in 1777 (See Waites' History of Claremont, J. B. Clarke Co., Manchester, 1895, pp. 184, 236, 319). After the death of Ralph Hascall his widow married the eminent Baptist minister, Dr. Nathaniel Kendrick, President of Madison University at Hamilton, New York. She died in November 1862 at Plattsburgh, where she is buried next her daughter Helen Hascall Stetson.



CAPT. JOHN LEMUEL STETSON—1861

Hampshire. They were married in Plattsburgh, February 24, 1831, and moved to Keeseville, Clinton County, New York, where they lived until August, 1847, when they returned to Plattsburgh, where they lived until the death of Mrs. Stetson, January 1, 1860, and his death, May 17, 1868.

They had four sons: (1) Ralph Hascall born Keeseville, N. Y., January 22, 1832, and died unmarried in New York City, November 5, 1859; (2) John Lemuel born Keeseville, March 8, 1834. Married 1858 Lucy Maria Platt (daughter of Moss Kent Platt, died February, 1860,) and was killed in command of the 59th N. Y. Vols. at Antietam, September 17, 1862; (3) Francis Lynde born Keeseville, April 23, 1846, and married at Rahway, N. J., June 26, 1873, Elizabeth Ruff, daughter of Dr. Samuel W. Ruff, U. S. Ct. of Lexington, Virginia, and New Orleans (where he died), and his wife Helen Davis (born Wilmington, Delaware) whose second husband was Edward Y. Rogers of Rahway. Ever since their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stetson have resided in the City of New York, which is now their home; (4) William Sterne born Plattsburgh, April 2, 1850, died May 29, 1883.

The professional career of Lemuel Stetson was active from the very start. Before he was admitted to the bar he was attorney for every prisoner in the Clinton County Jail thus acquiring the familiarity with criminal procedure which it is said led to his participation as counsel for or against every person charged with murder in Clinton County during the forty years of his professional practice. He was vigorous, powerful and clear in argument, industrious in the preparation of his cases, and remarkable for intellectual acumen. I have known many trial lawyers of great ability, but few more formidable than he. He would have stood in the front rank in the bar of any community with which I am familiar. His personal appearance was unusually fine, well proportioned, he stood five feet ten inches. His eyes were blue, his hair brown, and his bearing dignified and impressive. In a paper upon "George A. Simmons among the Fifties and his Friends in Northern New York" read in 1885 before the Chicago Historical Society by his young Keeseville friend John Mattocks, the following description is given: "Judge Stetson with his distinguished manner and address would remind one of the late William B. Ogden of Chicago his friend and associate in the New York Assembly

of 1835. . . . possessing as they did a dignity and politeness which made their society sought by the old and young alike." He was the Democratic leader in his county and often chosen to public office. He was District Attorney from 1838 to 1844, Member of Assembly in 1835, 1836, 1842 and 1882. He was a member of the 28th Congress (1843-5). Member of the Constitutional Convention of 1846, and County Judge under the new constitution from 1847 to 1851, changing his residence from Keeseville to Plattsburgh, the County seat, in order to discharge the duties of this office. He was democratic candidate for State Comptroller in 1855, running 500 votes ahead of his fellow candidate (for Attorney General) Samuel J. Tilden. He was delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Charleston and at Baltimore in 1860, where he heartily supported his friend Stephen Douglas. As a war democrat he went to the legislature of 1862 and in the autumn of that year was defeated for re-election along with General James S. Wadsworth and the rest of the Union ticket. His attitude upon the side of the Union was declared at the very outbreak of the war, April 17, 1861, when he presided at the first Union meeting in Plattsburgh and spoke as follows: "In this crisis all party feeling should be put aside and every one stand for the preservation of the Union and with the Administration in enforcing the laws and recovering the property of the United States, unlawfully seized." (From Bull Run to Chancellorsville, Curtis p. 15, Putnam 1906). Later, after burying his second son John upon the battlefield of Antietam, his patriotic devotion to his country was attested by the following letter to a friend in Albany, which was published in the Albany Atlas and Argus of October 2, 1862.

Baltimore, Sept. 27, 1862.

Dear Sir:

"I left Albany on the evening of the 19th quite abruptly and without seeing you as I desired. I had just seen my son's name, John L. Stetson, Lieut. Col. of the 59th, in the Journal's list of the casualties of the battle of Antietam; but it did not state whether killed or only wounded, and of course I went forward under anxious suspense. Arriving here the following afternoon I



John Lemuel Stetson and his wife Lucy Platt Stetson—1857

found at the U. S. Hospital two wounded privates of the 59th, just brought in from the battlefield. They left me little to hope; they reported him killed upon the field. I pursued my journey with many others, principally from Massachusetts and Rhode Island, who were equally anxious. We went by a special train to Frederick, and then via Middletown, Boonesboro, and Keedysville, by wagons and ambulances. At the latter place I came upon the hospital of Sedgwick's Division and found there a large number of wounded officers and men of the 59th. They confirmed the previous report. The Lieutenant Colonel was shot from his horse, in the heat of the action, at nine and a half o'clock A. M., Wednesday, the 17th of Sept. He was struck by a Minnie ball, in front, just below the pit of the stomach. The 59th stood in the centre of Dana's Brigade; the 42nd N. Y. and 7th Michigan being on the left, and the 19th and 20th Mass. on the right. They had pushed up the west bank of the Antietam two miles from Keedysville, crossed the turnpike leading from Sharpsburg to Hagerstown a mile and a quarter north of Sharpsburg, and entered the oak openings to the west of a broad cultivated field a little way north of the Dunkard's Meeting House. They entered the forest under the direct order of Gen. Sumner, upon the doublequick. As they left the clear ground they passed a crest running north and south to which point they had been all the way ascending from the Antietam. This crest had protected them from the shot of the enemy — concealed by the forest to the west — while they were in the cleared field, except from shells thrown over the forest. Entering the forest the land descended considerably to the west, and then formed a plain some forty rods in width to the edge of the oak openings on the west side of the forest. This plain, however, was undulating and formed into gently rising mounds. At the edge (west) limestone rocks cropped out on the same level with the plain, and along this was a gully or ravine some six or eight feet deep, forming an impregnable line of defence for the rebels. From this ravine or natural wall or ditch, the land rose sharply to the west for half a mile, and upon this eminence the Confederates had planted batteries which raked the plain over the heads of their own men concealed behind the abrupt line of limestone ledge. Dana's Brigade, brought to the centre of the

oak openings, received the double fire of cannon shot and small arms. But this was not all; the Divisions were not closed on the South, and the Confederates entering the opening flanked the Brigade as they stood exposed to the terrific cross-fire. The 7th Michigan and the 62nd N. Y. were turned, and General Sumner, ordered the line to fall back, which they did by moving hurriedly to the north upon their own line, under the pressure of the flank attack upon the left.

"The position of Lieut. Col. Stetson was at the right of his regiment, and as the men fell back to the point he changed front to the South, and earnestly stimulated the men to rally upon their colors. It was here that he received the fatal shot. He fell, and his horse galloped from the field. The Confederates occupied the spot until the following Friday morning, when the threatened pressure upon other parts of their line forced them to abandon this, the only point in the field from which they had been directly forced. Then the body of the Lieut. Col. was recovered, and was immediately interred, under the advice of Dr. Burr, the surgeon of the regiment.

The rebels had rifled his pockets and turned them inside out. They had taken his hat and boots. But a Rebel Major returned his wallet, marked with his name and residence, to Lieut. Rosa, of the 59th regiment, lying wounded upon the same field, saying that it contained nothing of value which they wished to keep. They had emptied it of everything but Confederate notes, which had been procured near Richmond, and held as curiosities. Lieut. Rosa gave the wallet to Captain Lyne, and then died of his wound, and Captain Lyne placed the wallet in my possession.

They buried the Lieutenant Colonel on the spot where he fell, upon a gently rising mound. Two trees stand to the west of the grave, the one, three paces from the head, and the other a like distance from the foot. The trees are scarred by shot, and the one at the south has three fresh hacks on the east side. Eight feet east of the grave lies an oak top, felled by a cannon shot. To the southwest and close upon the two oaks, the mound is skirted with several clusters (5) of dark brown mosscovered limestone rocks, that crop out from one to four feet. Directly south on the next gentle mound or swell, is a long line of fresh earth; it covers



FRANCIS LYNDE STETSON—1902

the remains of the gallant men of the 59th, who perished in the same conflict. They were collected and interred by the burial party of the regiment, on Saturday. The forest is so open that you may drive a carriage almost in any direction; but the oaks are nearly every one marked with bullets, grape, cannon shot or shell. On some I counted over a dozen bullet marks. The marks upon the trees are so thick that it is wonderful that any one could have stood there in the conflict unharmed.

"I found the burial rude and imperfect, like all soldiers' graves upon the field. On Tuesday morning I returned from Sharpsburg with a burial party, and had a wall twenty inches high built around the grave, close to the vault. This was filled with fresh earth and raised above the wall, and completed in the usual form. Then along the sides to the crest I laid slabs of dark brown limestone, and at the head and foot stand heavy stones trenched into the ground. Over the whole I laid green boughs cut from the top of the white oaks felled by the cannon shot, nearby. The duty was ended; the burial was complete — complete as might be under an exigency, which cannot be understood without too long an explanation — and I stood among strangers, — the rank and file of the army, — to make my grateful heartfelt acknowledgements for their kind assistance.

"But you may in all times of affliction rely upon the human and generous sympathy of the common soldiers. They have a respect for grief, and feel sympathy by instinct. I thank them again, one and all, for their kindness. The burial place and the field of battle at that point are owned by Colonel Miller, of Sharpsburg, now in the seventieth year of his age. He was a Captain in the war of 1812, in the 2nd Regiment Maryland Militia, and second under Colonel Richard K. Heath. I called upon him and received his own as well as the lively sympathies of his amiable family. His is a spirit of undoubted loyalty to the Union; and, I will say here that, I did not anywhere in all my journey and intercourse with citizens, from Baltimore to Harper's Ferry, meet any expressions or manifestations of feeling except of earnest loyalty. I have fixed your attention upon mine and myself — it was due to the occasion; but I do not desire you to think, that amidst my own profound grief, I was unmindful of the sufferings that everywhere

clustered along my path in the track of the army. I threaded the hospitals from Baltimore to Sharpsburg in search of a particular fact and the horrors that met my startled vision everywhere as I progressed were too appalling ever to be forgotten. Every church was a hospital. Private houses and barns were converted to the same use. Hundreds lay quietly upon the same church floor. The horror was not from any screeching or other manifestation of bodily pain. The wounded were without a solitary exception quiet and resigned. But it seemed that I had arrived among a race of men fashioned unlike the rest of mankind, — men with only one arm — men with only one leg — men with no arms — men with no legs — men with bodies otherwise disfigured, and yet men who talked and cheered, smiled and thanked God that it was no worse with them. Then again, in the vestibule of the church lay a naked body of a young man of exquisite form slightly covered with movable drapery. One large red dot in the breast marked the entry of the Minnie ball, another smaller one near it marked a slight bayonet wound, and the half closed eye and oppressed respiration told the beholder that his relief was nigh, and that he had given to the cause of the Union — all that a man could give — his life. I do not conjure up figures, I describe positive facts, unwelcome as they may be to the sensibilities of readers in the vale of comparative peace and happiness in the Northern States. Can you not see that when there are 10,000 killed and wounded, that there must be among the surviving sources of suffering and misery indescribable — not merely to themselves, but to anxious near relatives and friends?

“But I am departing from my purpose — the curse of mankind — war, is upon us; and yet it is only by war — vigorous, earnest, resolute war to the knife, — war in the minds and hearts of our people at home, as we see and feel the horrors of the front, and in the track of battle, that can save our nationality and preserve to us, or recover for us, the decent respect of mankind.

“From Sharpsburg, I returned by the way of Harper’s Ferry, staying two nights on the crest of Bolivar Heights in Virginia, Sumner’s Camp. The rebel pickets were two miles to the west. To get into camp I was forced to ford the Potomac, by the stupid driving of a full-blooded contraband. He did not know how to



ELIZABETH RUFF STETSON—1884

Wife of Francis Lynde Stetson.

manage six mules with a single ribbon. He shut his eyes, threw up the rein, yelled and let the mules have their own way; they went wild and stuck fast against a heavy wagon loaded with part of a pontoon bridge. He lost his position in line of transportation, and wagons and artillery swept by for an hour. To extricate myself I took off my boots, put my sox in my pocket, rolled my pants up to my knees and took to the water. The water was warm and agreeable but the sharp stones in the bed of the river hurt my feet, but I had to bear it, for no teamster would take pity on me. I asked the passing artillery to let me mount a cannon, and offered money, but no, it was against orders, — red tape prevailed. I got three-fourths of the way over, and stopped on an island of small boulders, made by the low water, when a fine looking officer of the artillery recognized me, and asked if I could ride. I replied that I could ride better than I could swim or wade. He dismounted the private from a fine supernumery artillery horse, and I sprang into the saddle with the renewed horsemanship of youth and rode into camp at the very elevated Bolivar Heights with the pride and dash of a cavalry officer. My deliverer was Lieutenant Egan, of Rickett's Battery, a cadet of the last class at West Point — a native of my own village, a generous, whole-souled Irishman — a gentleman, soldier and humanitarian. I dined with his mess; and thanking him for his humanity, hope he will soon recover from fever and ague. Recovering the horse and accoutrements of my deceased son, I returned to this place last evening by train from Sandy Hook, one mile below Harper's Ferry. Some days may elapse before I can return North.

"The conduct of Colonel Tidball, and Major Northidge, of the 59th, is described as gallant and resolute in the action of the 17th. The regiment went into action with less than 400 men. It lost in killed 47; wounded 143; 13 of 21 officers were killed or wounded.

Respectfully yours,

L. STETSON.

During his term in the 28th Congress Lemuel Stetson was known as one of "Silas Wright's boys" from the fact that, together with Preston King, Henry C. Murphy and Governor Fairfield of Maine, he lived with that eminent Senator from New York. Here he formed his life-long friendship with Stephen A. Douglas whom he

supported earnestly in the Democratic Conventions of 1860, but from whom he separated on the question of annexation of Texas, against which he voted (with six other Democrats) to the great satisfaction of his district which was free soil in sentiment. His seat was directly opposite that of John Quincy Adams, whose physical appearance he recalled in a public eulogy of his fellow lawyer William Swetland delivered in January 1864. Speaking of Mr. Adams he said, "I happened to occupy a seat for many months where I could look directly into his face—he was distant from me about fifty feet. Those who have seen the prints will remember that he was bald to the crown of his head. In watching his countenance one day, I observed that he had a quiet, fixed look; but a streak of red shot up from his brow to his crown, and then another and another till his forehead was in a bright glow of red, and then 'the old man eloquent' rose to his feet. It reminded me of the streaks and growing red in the east from early dawn to the rising sun, and of the rising sun, and afterwards I never failed to notice those signs just before Mr. Adams began to speak."

These Congressional neighbors seemed to have had each other under observation, for on one of the pages of the memoirs of John Quincy Adams, which I cannot now identify, occurs a statement substantially as follows: "Yesterday three young men spoke, Robert C. Schenck, Stephen A. Douglas and Lemuel Stetson. I prophesy that they will be heard from later." He was a warm supporter of Martin Van Buren and a friend of Samuel J. Tilden.

In the Constitutional Convention of 1846 he was Chairman of the important committee on the power of the Legislature and a leader (Atlas Debates). His instructive discussions are referred to by Mr. Lincoln in his "Constitutional History" (Vol. II. pp. 139-189, Vol. III. p. 212). During his last legislative term in 1862 he was chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the Assembly, the late Charles L. Benedict, U. S. Judge, and General Benjamin F. Tracy being members. Immediately upon the adoption of the constitution 1846 enlarging the jurisdiction of the County Courts, he was elected Judge of Clinton County, and removed from Keeseville to Plattsburg, where he continued to reside until his death upon May 17th 1868.

His wife, Helen Hascall, was a devout Christian and united un-



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WILLIAM STERNE STETSON—1880

usual powers of mind with loveliness of disposition. Upon her monument he justly inscribed the line "She did him good and not evil all the days of her life." Her children too called her blessed. It was the grievous misfortune of her two younger sons in their childhood to lose her cherished and tender ministration and instruction. The eldest son named for his maternal grandfather, Ralph Hascall, died in his young manhood in the City of New York where he was entering upon the practice of the law. The attachment between himself and his mother was close and sympathetic, each being profoundly religious. He was buried in the family plot in Riverside Cemetery, Plattsburg.

The second son, John Lemuel, was possessed of great physical beauty and a gallant spirit. Six feet in height and well proportioned he was the ideal soldier. He was a natural born leader, and his last words "Men, rally on your colors" as he led his regiment in the fatal charge of Sedgwick's Division of Sumner's Corps in the morning of Antietam was consistent with his life, since as a child of ten he had led his Keeseville playmates out upon a proposed exploration of the world, from which the first night out they were recovered by a rescue party consisting of the astounded and alarmed fathers and mothers of the village.

The charge in which he led his regiment, the 59th New York, was portentous. Out of 300 men 224, and out of 21 officers 9 were killed or wounded, a loss of officers exceeded only twice in the Civil War (Fox's Regimental Losses, p. 200). He was in command of the 59th New York, to which he had been transferred in March 1862, by promotion to Lieutenant Colonelcy from Captaincy of Company E in the 16th New York, with which he had gone to the front in April 1861, after declaring that should war ensue he would go South and fight on that side. His purpose was completely changed by the precipitate firing on his Country's flag flying over Fort Sumter. The story of the organization and conduct of this Northern New York Regiment has been told most admirably by General N. M. Curtis in his "Bull Run to Chancellorsville" (Putnam). He married Lucy Maria, the beautiful and lovely daughter of Moss Kent Platt, a nephew of Chancellor Kent, who died in February, 1860, shortly after her marriage leaving no children.

The fourth son, William Sterne, a handsome and beloved youth, of charming manners, died unmarried in Riverside, California, May 29th, 1883.

The only other member of this family is the President of the Stetson Kindred, who, since his graduation at Williams College in 1867, (where he was the classmate and intimate friend of Hamilton Mabie and President Stanley Hall,) has lived in New York. In 1874 he declined the position of Secretary to which he had been invited by Governor Tilden. For forty-six years he has practiced law in New York, and during the years 1889-1893 in association with his revered friend, that true and pure statesman and patriot, Grover Cleveland. His record is set forth sufficiently in "Who's Who in America" and superlatively in the New York Commercial, April 18th, 1902.

Upon June 26th, 1873, at Rahway, New Jersey, he married Elizabeth Ruff, with whom, in great and continuing happiness, he is leading a quiet life in New York and at his country home, Skylands, in Ringwood, New Jersey.

The following appendix contains the proceedings of the Clinton County Bar on the death of Lemuel Stetson, and also the "New York Commercial" Article above mentioned.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLINTON COUNTY BAR.

In Memory of Lemuel Stetson, 26 May, 1868.

At a Circuit Court holden at Plattsburgh, on the 26th day of May, 1868, Hon. A. Bockes presiding.

Hon. G.M. Beckwith addressed the Court as follows:

May it Please the Court: At the request of the Members of the Bar, I rise to announce to the court that, since its last session in this county, the Hon. Lemuel Stetson, a prominent member of the bar, has departed this life, and to request the court, out of respect to our deceased brother, to now adjourn and give the bar an opportunity to express their regard for his memory and their sympathy with the surviving members of his family.

JUDGE BOCKES: Let this court be now adjourned.

Meeting of the Bar. Immediately on the adjournment of the court, a meeting of the bar was organized, and on motion Hon. Thomas B. Watson was called to the chair, and H. E. Barnard chosen Secretary. On assuming the chair, Mr. Watson spoke as follows:

THE CHAIR, (*Judge Watson*): My first acquaintance with the late Judge Stetson began at Keeseville, now more than thirty-five years ago. I was then for a few weeks an inmate of his office and family. At that time he was a young man, rapidly rising in his profession in which he soon attained distinction. Shortly afterwards he was called to take part in the Councils of the State and Nation; and I think it will be conceded by all that he discharged every trust, whether professional or otherwise—committed to his care, with distinguished ability.

Judge Stetson was well known as an able lawyer—a sound and judicious statesman; and he ranked well among the ablest men that the State has of late produced. In the Legislature—in the Convention of 1846 for revising the Constitution of our State, and in Congress he was a leading debater and an active and influential member. *His constituents might well be proud of him, for he performed the duties of all the offices ever held by him in a manner alike creditable to them and honorable to himself.

Among the many admirable qualities of his mind, perhaps the most striking was its remarkable acuteness and discrimination. He was quick to see the real points at issue in a cause and to detect sophistry under whatever disguise it sought to conceal itself. All who have heard his arguments to courts and juries from this bar will bear witness to the great ability and eloquence that characterized his efforts.

It was not my fortune to be on close or confidential relations with our departed brother, into that inner circle of confidence and trust, where especial friends only are admitted, but where character can best be studied. I did not enter, I cannot speak of him as one thus admitted and therefore leave this field for others to occupy. In all my intercourse with him he was uniformly courteous, considerate and kind.

*See Lincoln's Constitutional History of New York, Vol. 2, pp. 139-189; Vol. 3, p. 212; Vol. 4, p. 603

Judge Stetson was our Senior at this bar. This court room was the field of his labors and here he was best known. Here he acquired his well earned fame. Here he won his proudest triumphs and wore his greenest laurels.

Circumstances prevented me from seeing much of the deceased for the last few years, but I could not fail to observe signs of ill health and physical decay which have now terminated in death. Thus one by one of the members of our little circle are taken away, and we are again reminded of the impending doom that has just overtaken our brother and which awaits us all a little way on in the future.

At the conclusion of Mr. Watson's remarks, Hon. D. S. McMasters spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman: On the 17th instant at 9 o'clock in the evening of that day, after a painful illness of a few weeks, the Hon. Lemuel Stetson departed this life at the age of 64 years. The Bar of this village, of which the deceased was a distinguished member, attended his funeral in a body as a mark of respect to his memory. They also appointed a committee to prepare and report Resolutions for the consideration of the Bar of the county this evening.

The deceased was a native of this county lived in this county and died here. Whatever he won of reputation as a scholar at home or abroad; whatever of reputation as a lawyer and statesman—it all belongs to this county and sheds lustre upon the Bar of the county.

In his day he enjoyed the confidence of the people of this county beyond that of any other living man—being four times elected Member of Assembly at different periods of his life; once Representative in Congress; once, Delegate to the Constitutional Convention of 1846, and once as county Judge, which office he held four years, and was District Attorney for seven years. Many of his suggestions were incorporated in the present Constitution; and while a Member of Assembly, the subject of the abolition of capital punishment had its run before the people of the State and in the Legislature. Judge Stetson though a young man, opposed the champions of that measure, and built a reputation for himself as a legislator of more than ordinary power and eloquence. He did as much as any other member in that body to prevent the repeal of all laws inflicting capital punishment. Whether considered as a lawyer or statesman he was equally distinguished.

From his first appearance as a political man down to the time of the death of Silas Wright, he enjoyed the friendship and confidence of that great and good man. In original strength and intellectual acquirements, Lemuel Stetson was no ordinary man.

No man could engage in conversation with him without being impressed with the idea that he was in the presence of a superior intellect. Though he suffered more domestic affliction than usually falls to the lot of man—having within a few years buried his wife and two sons—young men of promise and lawyers, still he bore up under it and submitted to the decrees of Providence with Christian fortitude.

As a citizen he was worthy of example; as a statesman, he received and deserved the confidence of the people; as a lawyer, he was able in examination of questions of law and fact, and clear and forcible in their presentation for the consideration of Court and Jury. By common consent, he stood at the head of the Bar of this county.

His intellect was never brighter; his judgment was never better and his zeal in his profession was never greater than when overtaken by fatal disease about five weeks ago. It may be truly said of him that he was stricken down by Death in the vigor of his intellect and in the midst of unfinished professional labors.

In this sudden bereavement we are again reminded that death is the most certain and at the same time the most uncertain of events.

Mr. Chairman, I did not rise for the purpose of eulogy or biography of deceased but to state the object of the meeting, and my appreciation of the merits of our distinguished brother.

With these few remarks, I call for the reading of the Resolutions, to give other members of the Bar an opportunity to speak of deceased.

Geo. Moore, Esq., then presented the following resolutions, in behalf of a committee consisting of Geo. Moore, James Averill, and Hon. Peter S. Palmer:

Resolved, That we sincerely deplore the loss by death of the Hon. Lemuel Stetson, in the strength and vigor of his intellect, and in the midst of his professional and personal usefulness.

Resolved, That we cheerfully bear testimony to the great worth of the deceased. He was a gentleman of integrity; respected by all who knew him; a sound and honest lawyer; an eloquent advocate, clear and forcible in argument and correct in judgment. Whether as District Attorney, or as a Member of the Assembly, or as a Representative in Congress, or as a Delegate to the State Constitutional Convention of 1846, or as County Judge and Surrogate, or as a lawyer, embracing in his practice a wide range and diversity of cases, he performed his whole duty well. His integrity, his impartiality and his capacity were never questioned.

Resolved, That we tender to the two sons of the deceased and to his relatives the sincere expression of our deepest sorrow.

Resolved, That these resolutions, with the approbation of the Court, be entered upon the minutes of the Court, and that the Clerk, in behalf of the Court and members of this Bar, present a copy thereof to the family of the deceased, and that they be published in the County papers.

On motion of C. E. Everest, the resolutions were accepted.

Hon. G. M. Beckwith then addressed the bar as follows:

Mr. Chairman: In rising to second the resolutions, I regret very much, that having been absent at the time of the death and funeral of our friend and brother, and not having returned until last evening, I have had no opportunity to call to mind those incidents in his life and character, which might be interesting to the bar and this assembly.

I became acquainted with Judge Stetson at an early day, when I was a mere school boy. More than forty years ago, I attended a school taught by him. From that day to the time of his decease I was well and personally acquainted with him; and, I think I may safely say I enjoyed his friendship. Judge Stetson was eminently a man of intellect. As a lawyer he stood deservedly high and had but few equals. As a politician he enjoyed the confidence of the public, and possessed for many years greater influence with his party, than any other man in this section of the country.

He was admitted to the practice of law about the year 1828, and from that time to his last sickness he followed that profession. Soon after his admission to the Bar he became an active and leading politician, without however losing his interest in the pursuit and study of the law. Not only as a lawyer, but in all the relations of life he manifested sound judgment and good sense. His investigation and preparation of causes for trial or argument, were marked with care and ability; and whether they presented questions of fact or law for decision he argued them with equal ability, presenting the facts to the jury with great force, and often with distinguished eloquence, and the law to the court with such clearness, as always to command its attention. He did not do as large a business as some other lawyers, but took pains to investigate all his cases, and I do not believe his client's causes suffered for the want of a full, just and proper presentation to the court or jury.

In the constitution of his mind Judge Stetson was somewhat metaphysical, and he possessed a forensic rather than a judicial mind. He argued his causes ably and eloquently, whether he happened to be on the side that ought to prevail or not. If the case had any view, favorable to his client, he was sure to bring it out and hold it up to the consideration of the court or jury, so clearly and forcibly as to give it, at least, all the weight, to which it was entitled. Honorable and liberal in his practice, he abhorred all technical or undue advantage. He was ready and willing to meet his opponent on the real merits of his case. He was an honest, upright man, an able lawyer, a forcible and eloquent advocate. He was elected for four terms a member of the Legislature of this State, and one term to Congress. He held the office of District Attorney of this county for several years and that of County Judge for four years. He also served in the Convention of 1846, which framed our present constitution and in that learned and able body he occupied a prominent place. Several years since he ran for the office of Comptroller of the State, but failed of an election. The party, to which he belonged, was that year defeated in the State.

Judge Stetson possessed the confidence of the public more than most men. In the performance of public trusts and duties he was ever faithful, prompt and energetic, and evinced a talent and aptness for any and all the offices he was called upon to fill. He was truly an honest upright man. During my long acquaintance with him, I have never heard his honesty or integrity called in question. The acquisition of wealth never seemed to be an object of much importance to him. Notwithstanding the large business which he did, and the opportunity he had of acquiring wealth, he accumulated but a limited amount

of property. He was evidently ambitious of standing high as a lawyer, politician and statesman; and he occupied that position in the estimation of this community.

I can truly say with the gentleman, who preceded me, that by the death of Judge Stetson this bar has lost its ablest member, and this community a man, who always took a deep interest in its prosperity, and who was always ready and desirous to aid by his counsel and otherwise, so far as he had the means, those public enterprises, that would in his judgment increase its prosperity.

But Judge Stetson has gone, no more to return. The event is a sad one, especially to me, who have known him since my boyhood — almost daily for many years have I met him, and his death reminds me, that one's sojourn here is short. That the labors of this life are soon ended. That what we have to do must be done quickly, or remain forever undone by us.

James Averill, Esq., next read from the Champlain Journal a biographical sketch of the deceased.

G. H. Beckwith, Esq., then spoke as follows:

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Bar: The lateness of the hour, and the constant occupation of my time since the decease of Judge Stetson, crowding out, as far as possible, all thought of him, is perhaps sufficient reason why I, as well as others, should hesitate to say anything on this sad occasion; and yet the fact, that Mr. Stetson's second son, who enlisting with the approval of his father in defense of our constitutional liberty, heroically fell, the most bravely exposed of his regiment, at the desperate battle of Antietam, was one of the most intimate friends of my boyhood and youth, — coupled with the fact, that the father, as if ever mindful of that son and his chosen friends, uniformly manifested for me, a most parental kindness — forbid that I should be wholly silent.

This custom of our Bar, to withdraw from the engrossing duties of an exacting profession, and within our own circle, for a short hour or more, to let into our minds and hearts, and to surrender them up to the full influence of, the great fact, the leading thought, expelling all others, that one of our members is no more; was never more beautifully appropriate, or more cordially observed.

Gentlemen: we owe it to ourselves, we owe it especially to our departed brother, that we should do something to extend and prolong the memory of the sterling worth, the high attainments, the great deeds, the ever noble bearing — of the long, useful, honorable, honest life of our senior member.

How little is known, and how imperfectly that little, of the life, the speeches and the character of a thorough lawyer, after his death especially if the scene of his life is wholly in the country. It is one of the saddest misfortunes of our profession, to one who has any desire to live in fame, that his efforts, although as specimens of forensic literature, in refined rhetoric, in stern logic, in true eloquence, in all that can convince the understanding and move the hearts, they may compare favorably with many of the best models, ancient or modern, are heard only by a few beside the court and jury, and an impression of their influence lingers in the memory for a few days, or months, or years, only to die with those who heard them. Of the two thousand model speeches made by Rufus Choate, how few, and probably not the best, are preserved. They were the

brilliant inspiration of the occasion, and no one could reproduce them. Such most emphatically were the best efforts of our lamented Stetson. How fit then, that in this court room, to which his eloquence often "drew audience still as night or summer's noontide air;" how fit that in this presence of Court and Bar, and jurors and witnesses, who have all not unfrequently beheld the stately movement of his disciplined mind, convincing judges by its logic and persuading the jury by resistless appeals to the best motives and feelings of our nature, — how fit, that here, on such an occasion, where his manly form, his genial countenance, his rich, unrivaled voice, were most familiar, we should pause for a little, and gathering up into a few resolutions the leading traits of his character and the more marked incidents of his life, ask the court to order them written in its enduring records. We cannot do less, and yet what more or better can be done or said, than is said in the resolution. The great Webster, when by common consent he stood at the head of the American Bar and was first of statesmen, said to the Bar of Charleston: "After twenty-five years of observation, I give it as the condensed history of most, if not all good lawyers, that they lived well and died poor." If this was the brief, complete history which that greatest lawyer would give of himself, "if not of all good lawyers," then certainly we have done something for the memory of our departed brother, when we have caused these resolutions to be written in the lasting records which evermore preserve the judgments of our courts. After all that has been so well said, I will not follow Judge Stetson from boyhood on the farm, through his long and honored career, to demonstrate how thorough was his preparatory training in the severest school of the common lawyer, or in the more liberal, more congenial principles of equity jurisdiction; to mention the many positions of honor and responsibility which he held; to give the briefest narration of the leading incidents of any, or even to hold up to view his remarkable fidelity in all, and through life, to himself and to the public. Of these enough has already been said for this occasion.

The first time I recollect to have heard Mr. Stetson, was when I was quite a small boy. I followed the crowd into this hall to hear him sum up an important cause. What case it was, or what he said, I do not now recollect, but the impression he made is still with me. I felt that he was right, and my boyish interest in his speech made me anxious that his client should succeed. How often since then, have we felt the power of his speech! Always thorough in his preparation of the law of a case, always familiar with its facts, so far as possible, he could almost instantly, after the statement of a cause, or after hearing folios of conflicting testimony, seize upon, and logically arrange and persuasively present, the controlling facts of a case: herein was his great power, and the secret of his success. And yet, I cannot concede that his mind was wholly forensic; it was just sufficiently judicial to render him a safe practitioner, a wise counsellor, an able judge. Two facts clearly establish this, first: The marked difference there always was in his argument of a just cause and an unjust one. While he argued a weak case well in the absolute, many times displaying much ingenuity and power in presenting some view of the case barely favorable to his client;

yet in such a case it was always apparent to those who knew him best that it was an effort, to which mind and heart lent themselves unwillingly. When, however, his cause was a just one, with what consummate judgment and skill he handled facts, how fertile of resource to overcome apparent objections and turn them to his own advantage, how easily and powerfully he wielded the law, and at times, as some great principle underlying his case fired his imagination, how he soared in the eloquent consciousness of the innocence of his client and the justice of his cause. The other fact is found in his judgments as a justice of the Peace and as County Judge. I have heard it said, and from my knowledge of his legal attainments and habits of investigation, of his keen sense of justice and his integrity, I can readily believe, that during the many years he acted as Justice of the Peace, no judgment rendered by him was reversed, and that but one case decided by him while County Judge was appealed.

It was said, by Edmund Burke, if I mistake not, "that the science and profession of the law did more than all other sciences and professions put together to quicken and invigorate the human understanding, but they were not calculated to liberalize it in the same degree." If ever a lawyer, clinging to the practice of his profession till death, steered clear of his danger by the well ordered course of his life, Judge Stetson did. He read and thought just enough outside of his law books to make him a complete man. He had early studied political science and history, and had participated quite actively in party politics; he possessed a good general knowledge of the sciences, the arts, and English literature: and through life, he kept himself read up in all these, to such an extent that his professional labors and reading, to which he faithfully devoted most of his time, served only to bring out more conspicuously the natural strength, beauty and harmony of his intellectual character.

The qualities of mind, and heart, and speech, which gave him prominence at the bar, could not fail to render him conspicuous in politics, and as a man in all the walks and relations of life: and so he was, almost from the start, conspicuous, trusted, leading, capable.

The uprightness of his conduct, which is justly made the key stone of our resolutions, was only the outward manifestation of an immovable integrity of soul within.

Where is the man, rich or poor; where is the widow or orphan; where is the friend or the political enemy, who in all those forty years did not find him ever honest and faithful, true to himself, to them, to duty, and to the public. Opportunities, such as are eagerly seized upon by others, were not wanting in his long practice of the law and in the many high public positions which he filled, to accumulate wealth and obtain lucrative political preferment; but he put them all aside — he would not be tempted by them, — he preferred his spotless, unsuspected integrity. As I stood by his bedside and watched his slow measured breathing growing shorter and shorter, till his noble spirit winged its flight to its rewarding Author, I thought on these things, and said to myself: "Who would not prefer his life and his death, with their little of this world, to the opulence and eminence which are reached by the sacrifice of the soul's integrity."

PORT KENT, May 27, 1868.

DEAR SIR:

An untoward circumstance deprived me of the sad gratification of attending the funeral of Judge Stetson, and now, a temporary absence from home prevented my receiving your note in time to allow of my participating with the Bar in its expression of respect and esteem for his memory. It would have afforded me great satisfaction to have complied with your request.

A warm and intimate friendship with Judge Stetson extends back to our youth, which on my part was founded upon a high appreciation of his talents and an earnest regard for the many excellencies of his character.

Although nearly the same age, I was several years his senior at the Bar, and had abandoned the practice about the period of his admission as Counsellor. This circumstance, my removal for several years from the State, and my subsequent retirement, prevented a personal knowledge of his professional career. I know however, that he attained a reputation which placed him in a position of eminence not merely in the local courts, but also in the highest judicial tribunals of the State. I once heard the late Mr. Simmons remark (and no one was more competent to form a just estimate of professional qualities) that Mr. Stetson possessed one of the strongest and most discriminating legal minds he had ever met. I do not think that brilliancy marked the intellectual organization of Judge Stetson, but the peculiar qualities of his mind were vigour, extent of scope and great analytical powers.

His political preferment was equally rapid and remarkable as his professional success. He reached these varied positions, by the influence of no adventitious circumstances but solely through the native vigor of his mind and the great energy of his character.

Beneath an exterior, that disclosed some peculiarities of manner and temperament, Judge Stetson carried warm and active sensibilities of heart, that rendered him singularly sympathetic with the sorrows and sufferings of others. He was a firm and ardent friend; zealous in the performance of the offices that friendship imposed. In all our social, professional and political relations, his death has created a void, which will not soon or easily be supplied.

But in his own forcible allusion to a venerable brother, "He has made up his last brief; he has argued his last case; the light in his office has gone out, not, again to be relighted. His voice is silent, crape hangs on the door of his dwelling and he sleeps with the dead — with the dead of his own household — with the dead of the bench and the bar — with his clients."

With a grateful acknowledgement for the kindness and courtesy of your communication.

I am very cordially and fraternally,

Yours etc.,

W. C. WATSON.

GEO. HENRY BECKWITH, Esq.

NEW YORK COMMERCIAL

Friday, April 18, 1902.

"Ask Grover Cleveland. He is the only man who can break the seal," replied a friend of Mr. Francis Lynde Stetson when asked if the following story is true.

In the last administration of Mr. Cleveland a coterie of New York Democrats of the Tilden-Cleveland school went to Washington by night and asked the President to honor Mr. Stetson with an appointment that would approximately recognize his merit. The story goes that Mr. Cleveland said: "You gentlemen can go back home with the assurance that, if Mr. Stetson would have accepted an appointment in this administration, his friends would not have had to ask it for him. But the trouble with Stetson is his friends can do nothing for him."

The story is not very far wrong. No man in what is known here in New York as the "Cleveland Democracy" has had the confidence and esteem of that faction to the extent that Mr. Stetson has. His faithfulness commanded the respect of the opposing faction, and of the other party. Before Mr. Cleveland was President, Mr. Stetson was his friend and political adherent. Younger by more than a decade than Mr. Cleveland, Mr. Stetson was in the councils of his party long before Mr. Cleveland was.

When the Democratic party had made the most masterly campaign in its history — Tilden and Hendricks being the candidates — and was then called upon to give up what the party believed was its victory, Mr. Stetson was one of the men called by Mr. Tilden in conference with the legal lights of the Democracy. To Mr. Stetson was given what is known in that contest as the "Florida returns." It will be recalled that the returns of several Southern States were in question by the opposing party after the Presidential contest. The preparation of the legal papers in connection with the electoral votes of those States required the best trained legal minds in the party and the truest party spirit. Mr. Stetson prepared the Florida case for the tribunal that had been created to pass upon the greatest election contest in history. A lawyer of this city has said of that contest:

"I mean no disrespect in that memorable occurrence when I say that, if all the cases had been prepared as Francis Lynde Stetson prepared his, it would have been better for the party. I don't say that we would have seated Mr. Tilden — I don't believe anything but force could have done that."

Any article of this character that treats of Mr. Stetson must be incomplete. The peculiar estimation in which Mr. Stetson is held by those authorized to speak of him causes them to hesitate in detailing those incidents which the public likes to read about. Mr. Stetson's friends know his rank as a lawyer, his great success, his unsullied character as a man, his fidelity as a citizen, his loyalty to his party, his devotion to his church and his acknowledged scholarly attainments. They know, too, that the public knows all these, and they think anything else is sacred. One of them spoke for all when he said:

"Mr. Stetson's private life is spotless. His friends not only admire him, they love him; and if he would only allow us, we would show the world how much we love him; but he won't allow us to do it — and his wish is law."

Mr. Stetson is the head of the law firm of Stetson, Jennings & Russell. Its offices are in the Mills Building in Broad street. The present firm is the successor of one of the most noted law firms in New York and one of the most generally known among lawyers of the country — Bangs & Stetson. It became more generally known to the public when, after his first term as President, Grover Cleveland became one of the firm. For a long time after Mr. Cleveland's connection there the direction of the political winds were watched from the summit of the Mills Building. But the membership of Mr. Cleveland in the firm added not so much as a cubit to the legal stature of Mr. Stetson. It did not accentuate the friendship of Mr. Stetson's coterie for him.

The public has a notion that when a man has reached the heights in his profession as Mr. Stetson has, he has found the shade where he can rest. Mr. Stetson is still at work. He has no early hour at his office. He does not come down town or go home by his time-piece. There are days when he is not seen at his office at all. But those who know him have come to learn that when he is thus absent he is working elsewhere, and when he does come to the office it means more work for everybody.

It has been a long time since Mr. Stetson was seen in court. But the great corporations of the country know what he is doing. Generally considered, the most important railway litigation in this country has been directly or indirectly managed by Francis Lynde Stetson. It is known — and has been ever since the first announcement that Mr. Stetson is (as the Street puts it) "J. P. Morgan's lawyer." The Street means by this that Mr. Stetson is retained by J. P. Morgan & Co., as counsel in all the interests of that concern.

Mr. Stetson is probably the best known lawyer in the Episcopal Church. He is, first of all, a zealous churchman. Nothing deters him from this duty. He is a warden in the Church of the Incarnation of this city. He has been a delegate to every Episcopal convention for many years. It was Mr. Stetson who framed the canon on "divorce and marriage" — it was so denominated by the press — which was the principal topic at the recent convention in San Francisco.

It is rather remarkable that one who has been in the white light of State and church affairs as long as Mr. Stetson has, who is in such demand at his clubs and at social functions should be slow to speak. He will not be considered as an

after-dinner talker. He will not be recognized as an orator. He speaks in public only when he has prepared himself, and then every word he utters falls with convincing force.

The personal charm of Mr. Stetson is most attractive in his home, or in the circle of his friends. Joseph Choate is one of the best judges of these attractions — at least Mr. Choate has that reputation — and he has said that he considers the kindly generous personality of Francis Lynde Stetson quite unlike that of any one else whom he knows. Nothing more need be added on that point.

Mr. Stetson has two homes—one in Madison avenue, the other near Tuxedo. In either he is a charming host. Tuxedo is the Summer home. Mr. Stetson probably gets more comforts there than in his city house, for is he fond of outdoor life. * * * * *

Mr. Stetson is what an Englishman would call a "well-set-up man." His own countrymen would say "medium sized". His eyes are the benevolent shade of blue. He has a good mouth, tolerably well concealed by a brown moustache that harmonizes with his hair, and is most correct always in his daily dress.

He was born in Plattsburg, N. Y., in 1846. His father, Lemuel Stetson, was eminent as a lawyer and a jurist. He was one of the members of the last constitutional conventions of New York. He was also a member of the Legislature and it was at Albany that his son, Francis Lynde, first met public men. It was there that he first met Mr. Cleveland. Francis Lynde Stetson was prepared in Plattsburg for Williams College, and was graduated there in the class of 1867, which contained several who have become noted. For instance: Stanley Hall, president of Clark University, Governor Dole of Hawaiian fame; and Henry Loomis Nelson, journalist. He went to the law school of Columbia University. His practice dates from 1870, when he went into partnership with his uncle William S. Hascall. His readiness in making friends, his skill in the management of his business, attracted the attention of William C. Whitney, who had him appointed assistant corporation counsel when Mr. Whitney was at the head of the city's legal department. He was closely identified with the Whitneys when they were so conspicuous in Washington, and he drew the will of the first Mrs. Whitney.

He left the corporation counsel's office to become a partner in the notable firm of Bangs & Stetson. It was Mr. Stetson who arranged* the loan to the Government, for J. P. Morgan — a bit of financiering that created a great deal of talk at the time.

Mr. Stetson is a member of the following clubs and societies: Metropolitan, Bar Association, University, Law, Down Town, Tuxedo, Church, Democratic, Riding, Reform, Grolier, Alpha Delta Phi and of the Williams College Alumni; a member of the Williams College board of trustees, of the Dunlap Society, New England Society, Metropolitan Museum of Art and the American Geographical Society.

* No, he advised his client but did not "arrange."

His interests, aside from his practice, show his capacity for business. Thus he is a director of the Alabama Great Southern Railroad, Buffalo, Bellevue and Lancaster Railway, the Buffalo Railway, Chicago and Erie, Cincinnati, New Orleans and Texas Railway; Crosstown Street Railway, Erie Railroad, New York, Susquehanna and Western; Niagara Development Company, Niagara Falls Power Company, Niagara Junction Railway, South Carolina and Georgia Railway, Southern Railway Company in Kentucky, Southern Railway in Mississippi, and first vice-president and director in the Cataract Construction Company.

DESCENDANTS of the children of Robert 2d of Champlain, (mentioned on page 73.)

Augustus Buel (m. Sophia North) had two children, Edith Pamela, and Robert Thurber.

Edith Pamela (m. Dr. Saml. D. Merrill) had one child, Ralph Stetson (born in Champlain, 18 January, 1887) all living in Gloversville, N. Y.

Robert Thurber (m. Phebe Bosworth) had two children, Dorothy and Donald. They live in Ottoville, Pennsylvania.

Martha Amelia (m. Horace Brown) had one daughter, Mildred, living in Northampton, Mass.

Martin Van Buren Stetson (m. Ellen Cook) left four surviving children in Gloversville. Albert Hiram, (m. Della Ludington;) Lawrence m., (no children;) Jeanette did not marry; Philena, (m. Herbert R. Kincaid) one son, Herbert Stetson, born February, 1914; they live in Elmira, N. Y.

Hannah, (b. 11 May, 1829; d. 27 Jany., 1904) m. D. D. Gorham, July 24, 1848. They had five children who survived:

Ella Buell (Parsons) born October 26, 1853, Northampton, Mass.

Anna Kellogg, born December 14, 1855, now living in Northampton, Mass.

Mary Esther, born May 16, 1858, now living in Portland, Maine, married James Freeman Bush, who died August, 1913.

Jennie Sophia, born October 30, 1868, married Edgar S. Bliss: children, Arthur Gorham, born January 14, 1893; Olive Ames, born February 24, 1895; Theodore, born June 26, 1896; Gorham, born September 2, 1901; all now living in Springfield, Mass.

Robert Stetson Gorham (d. 15 June, 1913) (m. Alvine Thomas, of Duxbury, June 26, 1890,) had one son, Thomas Gorham, born April 14, 1891, now living in Cambridge, Mass.

Bar Association of the City of Boston, April 10th, 1915.

In memory of Robert Stetson Gorham, late member and Secretary.

ROBERT STETSON GORHAM, the son of Daniel D. and Hannah M. (Stetson) Gorham, was born at Champlain, New York, June 28th, 1863, and died suddenly at Cambridge, Mass., June 18, 1913. He came of sturdy New England stock,

and many of the qualities that distinguished him can be traced directly to his inheritance. On his father's side he was descended from Captain John Gorham of Plymouth, who was in his day a noted fighter in the Indian wars. After the Revolution, in which his great-grandfather took part, the family moved to Rutland, Vermont, and there his grandfather, Eli, although not a member of the Bar and never bred to the law, acquired a local reputation in the community for adjusting the disputes of his neighbors. Eli's son, Daniel, graduated at Middlebury College and became a teacher. A man of stern and austere demeanor, a teacher of the old fashioned school, he died in harness after nearly twenty years of service in the High School at Northampton, Massachusetts.

On his father's side, Robert Gorham acquired an honesty of mind, a calm and well balanced method of arriving at a conclusion, and an unflinching resolution in carrying his conclusions into effect.

On his mother's side, he came from Robert Stetson, the cornet of horse who in 1634 settled in that part of Scituate which is now Norwell, and who was for many years a member of the General Court of Massachusetts, and a noted figure in the early days of the Colony. His grandfather of the same name was an officer of the customs at Champlain, New York, and it was from him and from his daughter, Hannah, that Robert Gorham inherited his taste for music, his fondness for his flower garden, and the genial qualities that endeared him to his associates.

The union of these qualities on the father's and on the mother's side produced in Gorham a strong and unique character that won at once respect and affection.

Robert Gorham spent his youth at Northampton, Massachusetts, and prepared for college at the Northampton High School, entering Harvard College in 1881 with honors in the classics. While in Cambridge his career was well rounded. He took part in athletics, was on the class and varsity tug-of-war, and later rowed as a substitute on the varsity crew. At the same time his interest in scholarly pursuits resulted in his graduation in 1885 with the degree of *magna cum laude*.

After graduation, he studied law in Northampton for one year, and then returned to Cambridge to continue his studies at the Harvard Law School. While at the Harvard Law School he became a member of the first Board of Editors of the Harvard Law Review, then just started. He graduated from the Law School in 1888 with the degree of LL.B., and entered the law office of Ropes, Gray & Loring in Boston. Later he became a partner in that firm, and on the elevation of Mr. Loring to the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, the firm name became Ropes, Gray & Gorham.

At the Bar Gorham would have attained distinction had he chosen to devote himself in the old fashioned way to advocacy, for he belonged to those who impress the justice of their cause upon a tribunal by the force of their mind and character rather than by brilliant dexterity of argument or plausible appeal to the emotions. But in the practice of a large modern firm his ability to deal with intricate matters naturally led him more and more to act in an advisory capacity.

As an adviser the solidity of his learning, the breadth of his view and the accuracy of his judgment gained the confidence of his clients and the respect of his professional brethren. A simple directness of method and candor of statement which came from an equal vigor and honesty of mind were distinguishing characteristics in his dealings with any problem, however intricate, and made his work effective. The matters in which he was engaged were many and important, but in everything, great or small, he never forgot the obligations of his oath, and every interest in any enterprise in which he was retained benefited by his fidelity in seeking a proper solution and a happy issue out of the difficulties of the situation.

In a similar way he recognized his duty to his profession, and for a term of years as Secretary of the Boston Bar Association and as a member of the Council of the Harvard Law School Association he gave to his profession the benefits of the same qualities that brought him success in private practice.

Nor was the community in which he lived forgotten. For many years he served as Chairman of the School Committee at Newton and was prominent in other public work, to which he gave most unsparingly his time and thought.

The mere recital here of his activities fails to do him justice. The work in which he was engaged and to which he gave his energies, important as it was, was only the usual work of a busy profession. There was little in it that can be chronicled to advantage. It was his character, always adequate to the task before him, that illumined the details of his practice. It was his character, springing from the union of his inherited qualities and brought to fruition by his calm and unflagging pursuit of ideals that in the midst of conventional surroundings made him a leader among his fellows. He turned aside from everything ignoble; he raised petty things to a plane that was fine and high; he won the respect of his adversaries and the affection of his friends. When he died the world for a time seemed a poorer place; but he left behind him an example of service which made the profession he adorned the richer for his memory.

A true copy Attest,

RICHARD W. HALE,

Secretary.



MISS SUSEY A. SMITH

Kingston, Mass.—A Director.

(A descendant of "Robert of Pembroke.")

"ROBERT OF PEMBROKE" AND A FEW OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

(See p. 92 Barry's Stetson Family)

"Robert of Pembroke" was the seventh child of "Cornet" Robert Stetson. He was born January 29, 1653, and married in 1676, Joanna Brooks, daughter of William and Susanna Dunham (wid.) Brooks.

Robert second started in life with the knowledge that the public in general and his father in particular had not an exalted opinion of him, for the old gentleman in his will gave him only his wearing apparel.

Dean says in his history of Scituate "Left no family on record," this was because he settled in Pembroke, and there his family was recorded. The first minister of Pembroke presents him to the descendants, for in his list of "Heads of Families" is found Robert and his son Isaac.

Notwithstanding Robert second's inheritance of his father's old clothes, his descendants had an inheritance of strength of character and fine business ability, and among them were many noted, prosperous people particularly in the Iron Industry which prevailed among them. His children were Isaac, Timothy, Resolved, Sarah and Nathaniel. Barry tells us Timothy died in 1759 and there was no record of a family. Still there may have been, as also that of the brother Resolved who died 1749. Sarah married Ebenezer Bennet of Middleboro April 23, 1719. Nathaniel married Susanna Randall and he died April 12, 1713, leaving a little daughter Susanna who died in 1715, the widow meantime having married John Holmes.

This gives us only Isaac to hand the name of Stetson down the line to the descendants of "Robert of Pembroke." Isaac's wife whom he married some time not far from the beginning of the Eighteenth Century was known only as "Elizabeth" for many years, until her granddaughter Content Stetson, daughter of John, who married Zenas Crooker of Bridgewater, told Mr. Barry, when questioned, that her grandmother was Elizabeth Pray. It is presumed she may have been of Ephraim Pray of Braintree, who had a daughter Elizabeth, corresponding age.

The children of Isaac and Elizabeth (Pray) Stetson were: Abisha

born about 1706; Cornelius born November, 1708; Nathaniel born March 5, 1710; Jennett born August, 1711; John born September, 1712; Peleg born "ye las of April", 1715; Sarah born 1718; Jerusha born 1718; Agatha born about 1720; Mary born about 1722; Hannah born ; Elizabeth born .

Of this family of seven daughters Jennett married November 5, 1730, Benjamin Thomas of Marshfield; Sarah married Ebenezer Rogers sometime near 1739 when she was baptized after marriage; Jerusha married December 31, 1741, Elisha Palmer of Hanover; Agatha married May 31, 1742, William Page; Mary married March 8, 1743, Peleg West of Kingston and second Spear; Hannah married Berry. She died early in 1759 as her estate was settled in May of that year, and it is through this settlement that we learn that Isaac Stetson had died and the widow had married again, for as Hannah Berry's real estate could not be divided, her brother Peleg Stetson took it at the appraisal and paid unto his mother Elizabeth Hatch and his brothers and sisters viz. Cornelius Stetson, John Stetson, Nathaniel Stetson, Jenne Thomas, Sarah Rogers and Mary Spear . . . "their ratable parts."

It has been learned through deeds, that Elizabeth (Pray) Stetson married a Jeremiah Hatch, but which Jeremiah we know not.

The descendants of Abisha the eldest son of Isaac and Elizabeth are elusive and difficult to trace, except as some writer has said of "Ancestors" "you catch him on the fly."

Abisha Stetson married in Hingham in 1750 Elizabeth James. Their children as nearly as can be determined were born in Hingham; Levi born December 12, 1732; Gaius born August 14, 1739; John born July 10, 1741.

A descendant of John has said there was another son Lemuel, and there certainly was a Lemuel, a prominent carpenter and builder in Boston, whose residence has been so far impossible to trace, but we are indebted to the will of Catharine Marrett, widow, of Boston for some "light" on the family. This will is dated December 12, 1787, and was proved November 15, 1792. It is a most interesting document. She was Katharine Weaver and married Powers Marrett April 3, 1727.

In her will among other bequests she gives fifty pounds to Susanna

Studson, wife of Lemuel Studson, Housewright, and twenty pounds to their daughter Catherine Marret Studson. All of Boston and yet I find only his marriage in Vol. 2d of Boston Marriages; Lemuel Stetson and Susanna Erving m. November 5, 1757.

Now what connection Susanna Erving was to Katharine (Weaver) Marrett much research fails to reveal. The various persons mentioned in the will were connected with important, prominent people. Alleynes, Royals, Winslows, Davises and many others. All were Episcopalians and most of them "Tories" in the Revolution. Catharine Marret Stetson m. 13, 1796, William Stephen Plummer; Edward Marret Stetson m. December 20, 1787 Abigail Mills

If this meets the eye of any descendants, perhaps they could tell us of their ancestors, what is missing in this sketch, for on page 95 of Mr. Barry's book, he gives No. 28 to Gaius, as well as Catharine.

Another mystery is that of the descendants of Levi son of Gaius (No. 27) who was a sea captain and married Mary Emmes April 20, 1784. Much time and research has been spent on this, without arriving at positive statements, but it is quite probable, that Ann Smith Stetson who married Deming Jarvis May 15, 1815, and Maria Stetson who married June 12, 1808, Francis Southac were sisters. The families of each were at Sandwich, Mass., and connected with the Glass Works.

There would be much of interest to tell about other descendants of Abisha which Barry has not given in his book, which it is hoped will be looked up with accuracy in the future.

Nathaniel the second son of Isaac married in 1739 Elizabeth Stetson daughter of Samuel of Scituate has left numerous descendants from eight children, neither time or space will permit the writer to work out the various lines. An anecdote of one became a "by-word" of the early part of the last century.

Lot, the fourth son married Joanna Soule of Duxbury and after many years in the coasting trade, settled in Pembroke, as a prosperous farmer. One winter he determined to give a large Christmas party, so he sowed invitations broadcast till it dawned upon him that the affair would be larger than he could manage, so he set about recalling his invitations by going about among the people



SUSAN STETSON (BRIGGS)

Wife of Nathaniel Smith, daughter of Luther and Susan (Briggs) and grand-daughter of Capt. Isaiah Stetson.

(A descendant of "Robert of Pembroke.")

saying, "Lot Stetson's Christmas is all aback," Then to the "chosen few" he added, "Notwithstanding we'll have it yet." And he did, greatly reduced in numbers. But this saying was handed down the succeeding years, when any undertaking looked unsuccessful. "It's all aback, like Lot Stetson's Christmas."

John the third son of Abisha married first, November 28, 1754, Abigail Crooker of Pembroke and from their five children have descended many distinguished people particularly in the Iron Business. Of these were Jonathan born 1768 and Abisha born 1773. Abisha's son Nahum born 1807 was well known as a successful business man and public spirited citizen, his memory will long be held in esteem in Bridgewater, where he resided.

John's first wife Abigail Crooker died and he married second Deborah Tower of Cumberland R. I., a descendant of a long line of distinguished ancestry. Their children numbered nine and of these nine children there were only two sons, both prominent in the Revolution. Captain Isaiah Stetson was both Captain in the Army and also on sea. Was at the taking of Stony Point under General Wayne, and as a sea captain he was in some privateering enterprises. A descendant has a large silver spoon, a relic of some seizure. After the war he returned to his private enterprises and died in 1798 at the West Indies much lamented.

His brother Nathan married first Bethiah Crooker July 4, 1782, by whom he had five children. She died and he married second Sally (Randall) Witherell, widow of Richard Witherell in September, 1796. Their family numbered nine. In 1793 the family removed to Woodstock, Vt. Nathan was also in the Revolution. Most of this family removed to various towns in New York, and there must be many descendants in that state.

This article is altogether too brief to go much into detail of many descendants of "Robert of Pembroke" in the younger generations, but the officers of the "Kindred" would be pleased if these would send to our Secretary anything of interest relating to their antecedents or families, which would assist in preparing a revised Genealogy.

SUSEY A. SMITH

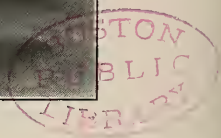
Kingston, June 28, 1914.



JOSHUA STETSON GRAY

Rockland, Mass.

A Director of the "Kindred" and descendant of Capt. Benjamin.



MARKET STREET, EAST ABINGTON (now Rockland) AND THE STETSONS WHO SETTLED THERE.

The early history of the settlement of East Abington should be of interest to every member of the Stetson family, for it was by descendants of our common ancestor, Cornet Robert, that the first house in that thriving community was erected and the wilderness that then prevailed was, by arduous toil, transformed into a prosperous farming district.

The first of the family whom I find on record as having settled there was Peleg, grandson of Robert who, at the age of twenty-five, feeling that the Town of Pembroke, where he then resided, was becoming too thickly settled and desiring to locate where there was more elbow room, came in 1735 to East Abington and built a frame house in the elbow of the road on what is now Market Street, (though the street was not then laid out, being built from Torrey's corner to Hanover line in 1756) on the site now known as the Porter Baker place.

True to family traditions, he vigorously attacked the forest growth with his axe and prepared the land for cultivation.

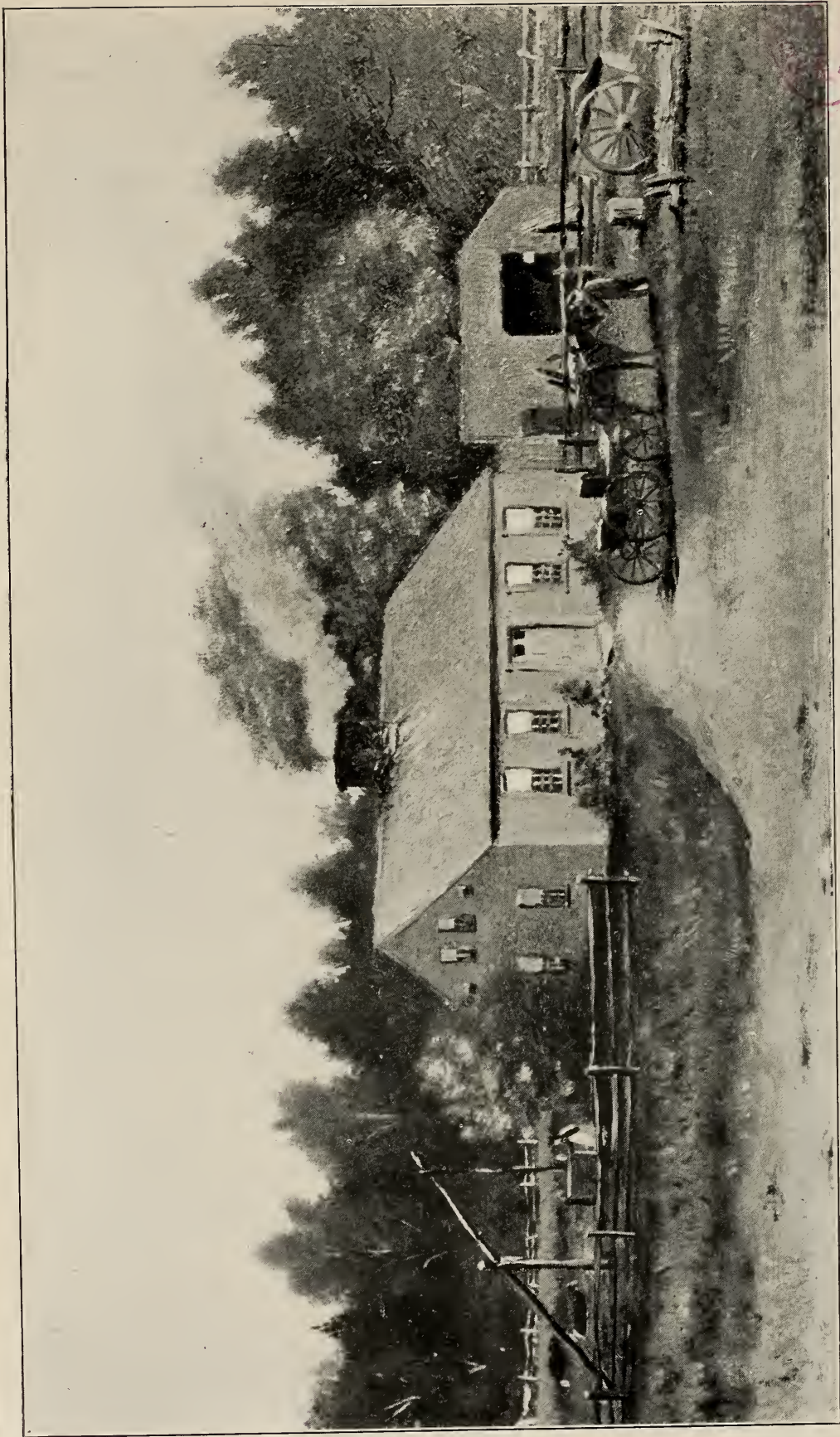
With characteristic foresight he established a charcoal-kiln, reducing his fallen trees into charcoal for which he found a convenient market at the old forge in West Hanover which was then engaged in casting heavy ordnance. Who can gainsay that some of those cannon may not have struck terror to the hearts of British soldiers on many a hard fought battle of the Revolutionary War?

His good wife shared with him the hardships and privations attending all pioneers, and they reared a large family, namely: Peleg, Laban, Ephraim, Oliver, Betsey and Hannah. He died May 16, 1806, aged 93.

His son Peleg went to Bridgewater and engaged in the iron business, which became the leading industry of that town.

For his son Ephraim, Peleg erected a house on Market Street near the house where Davis Cushing now resides, (another version says that the house was bought of Amos Berry who built it in 1743).

Ephraim was one of the original members of the Congregational Church Society which was organized August 27, 1813, being elected Deacon in 1813 and rendering faithful and efficient service for twelve years until the infirmities of age caused his resignation of that office.



PELEG STETSON HOMESTEAD

First "frame built," house in Rockland, (formerly East Abington) Mass. Built by Peleg Stetson in 1735.
From old painting by Horace Studley, a great-great-grandson of Peleg Stetson, who was grandson of "Robert of Pembroke."

A house of worship was erected by the society on Hearsey's Hill, (now Union Street, Rockland) on the site now occupied by the Congregational Church and which was deeded by David Hearsey to "The Proprietors of the Meeting House" on the condition that "If the said proprietors erect a meeting-house on the above described land then this instrument to remain in full force and virtue, otherwise to be void and none effect."

Ephraim died October 27, 1860, aged 96.

In the Ephraim Stetson house from 1835 to 1842 lived Samuel Blake, Jr., of South Abington and his wife Lydia, daughter of Barnabas Stetson. He manufactured shoes in the south room during that period.

In 1768, for his son Oliver, Peleg built a house on land now occupied by Davis Cushing (see plate) in which Barnabas Stetson, son of Ephraim, kept a grocery store. Oliver died October 19, 1841, aged 82.

For Laban, his father erected a house (now demolished) where the residence of the late Joseph Perry now stands, on the south side of Old Market Street (now owned by the Wymans). At one time this house was occupied by Isaac Pollard, who married Lydia (daughter of Barnabas and Lydia) who manufactured shoes in the stable.

Laban owned the first four-wheeled farm wagon used in this region and did the carting for Eliab Studley's Mill, and for Barney Stetson's grocery store.

He didn't like this new-fangled cart; said "it was always running into something; too many wheels to look out for."

Hannah remained single, passing her life in the old homestead, dying at the age of 83, June 30, 1841.

Betsey married Eliab Studley of West Hanover, owner of the mill property known always as "Eliab's Mill." They had eight children, one of whom, Nathan Studley, married Hulda Ellis making their home in the old Peleg Stetson house on Market Street, where eight children were born to them: William, Andrew, Sophia, Reuben, Alvin, Sylvia, Elizabeth, and Hulda. Hulda married N. Porter Baker, of Marshfield.

They lived in the old Stetson homestead until 1872 when it was demolished and the present structure was built by Mr. Baker upon the same site, of the original Peleg Stetson house built in 1735.



BARNABAS STETSON HOUSE

Built by Peleg Stetson in 1768 for his son Oliver and afterwards occupied by Barnabas.

Martin S. Stetson, son of Barnabas and Lucy, who was a shoe merchant in the South until the breaking out of the war of the rebellion, built the house opposite the Barnabas Stetson Grocery, now the property of Mrs. Jeremiah Murrell, and made it his summer home for many years.

Andrew and Reuben Studley also built houses on Market Street and Gideon Studley, a descendant of Stetson stock, bought the mill privilege of the Samuel Reed estate and erected a large box-mill on the east side of the mill dam on Market Street, also a dwelling-house now owned and occupied by his son Gideon, nearly opposite the brick blacksmith shop.

The brick Blacksmith Shop, here referred to was built about the year 1812 by Jacob Stetson, of the Drinkwater Reservation, on the north side of Market Street, near Samuel Reed's mill-pond. He manufactured the bricks with which it was built from clay and sand procured from pits still visible on Concord Street. When completed, he successfully carried on his trade, and from that day

to the present time, the cheery music of the blacksmith's hammer and anvil has been a continuous week-day performance.

One day, while at work, happening to behold a lady passing by, he turned to Joseph Smith (who was waiting for his horse to be shod) and asked "Do you know what that woman's name is?" "That was Rispah Bisbee of Hanover." In just six week's time "that woman" walked into his house bearing a name much more satisfactory to the brawny blacksmith, that of "Mrs. Jacob Stetson."

For seven years they toiled on together until 1819, when Mr. Stetson sold the business to William Woodbury of New Hampshire and removed to Cummington. Mr. Woodbury continued a successful business at the old stand and in 1825 built the house known as the Baker house situated a few rods west of the shop.

In 1823 Horatio, son of Capt. Samuel Baker of Marshfield, began work as an apprentice with Mr. Woodbury and after the death of his employer, associated with himself his brother Paul, bought the house and shop, continuing the business until their death. Paul dying December 21, 1875, aged 67 and Horatio, March 27, 1887, aged 80.

Could we but reproduce the tales told by those early settlers as they gathered about the old forge, what a history of those times would they reveal; and who can estimate the influences for good that emanated from those old Market Street houses? Not a vestige of the oldest remains, but the sturdy pioneers who hewed their timbers and reared their walls made a virile impression upon their day and generation, one that is well worthy of the emulation of their descendants.

Of such homes and such firesides Montgomery thus wrote:

"Here woman reigns; the mother, daughter, wife
Strews with fresh flowers, the narrow way of life.
In the clear heaven of her delightful eye
An angel guard of loves and graces lie.
Around her knees domestic duties meet,
And fireside pleasers gambol at her feet.

Where shall that land, that spot of earth be found?
Art thou a man, a patriot — look around:
Ah thou shalt find, where'er thy footsteps roam,
That land thy country, and that spot thy home."

The above statistics were compiled from files of the Rockland Standard and contributed by the late Deacon Lorenzo Perkins in 1895-6, and also from historical manuscripts loaned by Dr. Osgood. The photographs are by Burton Estes.

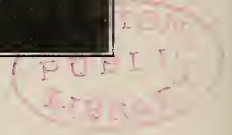
JOSHUA STETSON GRAY.

Rockland, July 3, 1914.



HERBERT LEE STETSON, LL. D.

President of Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Mich.
(A descendant of Joseph.)

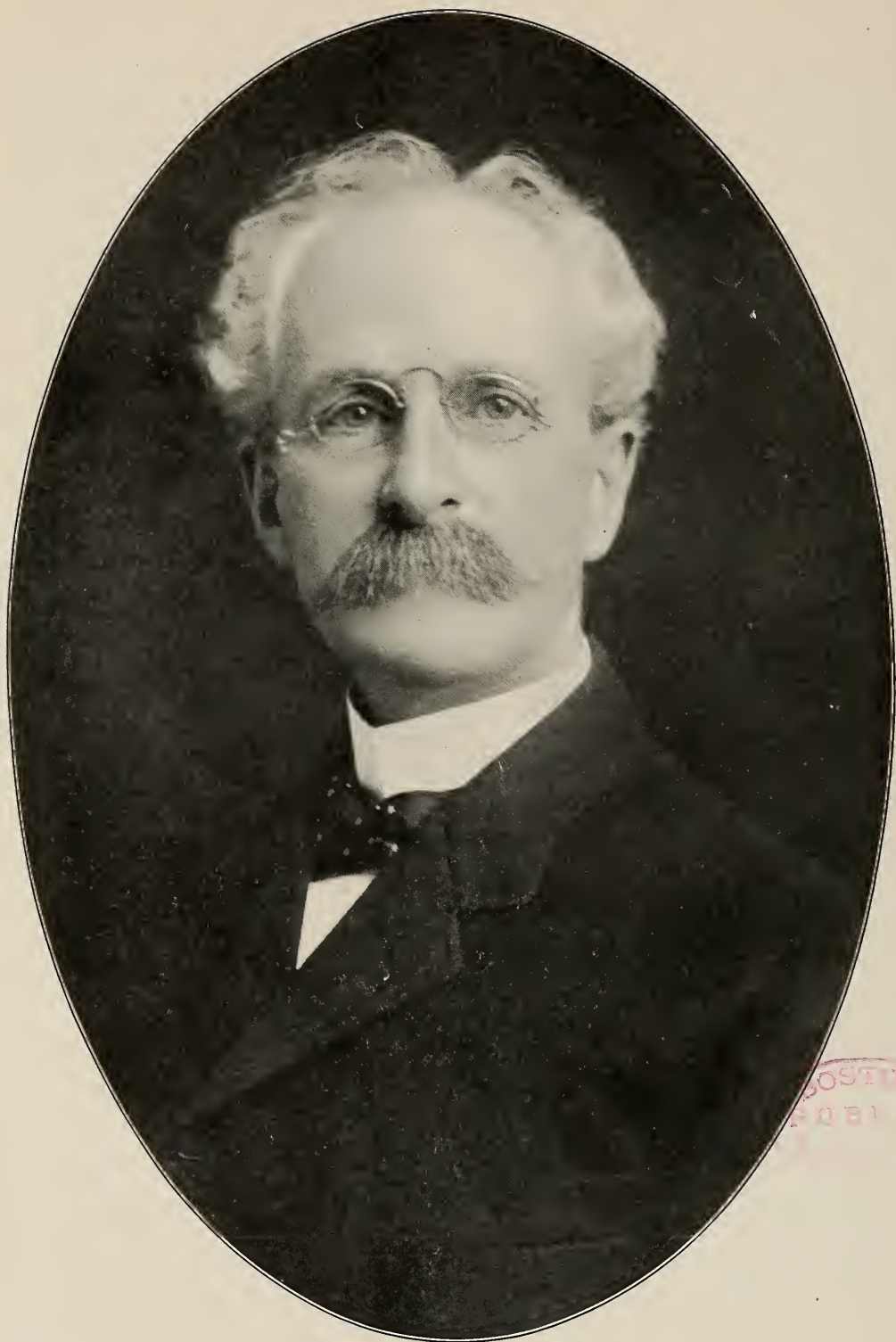


HERBERT LEE STETSON, LL. D.

Dr. Stetson was born at Greene, Maine, October 16, 1847, in the house built in 1791 by his great grandfather, Batcheler Stetson of Scituate, Mass. (See page 38). He is a son of Reuben and Christiana (Thompson) Stetson, and a brother of William Wallace. He was married in 1871 to Mary daughter of Rev. Nathan C. and Lucy Almeda Clifford of Monmouth, Maine.

Dr. Stetson has received the following degrees, B. D. Baptist Union Theological Seminary 1878. A. M. Franklin College 1886, and D.D., *ibed*, 1889. LL. D., Des Moines College 1901. He was President of Des Moines College for twelve years. Professorial Lecturer on Psychology and Religion, University of Chicago 1902, 1906, 1907 and for several years editorial writer for The "Indiana Baptist."

Dr. Stetson was also Pastor of the Baptist Church at Logansport, Indiana, for eleven years and of the First Baptist Church of Des Moines, Iowa, for three years. He is now President of Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, Mich.



NELSON M. STETSON

Abington, Mass.

Secretary and Treasurer of the "Kindred."

(The ninth generation from the Cornet via both Capt. Benjamin and Joseph
and all born in Scituate.)

CHURCH HILL — AN OLD STETSON BURYING GROUND.

A PAPER WRITTEN FOR THE 1913 REUNION.

How many of the "Kindred" on their way to the "Shrine" have noticed the beautiful grove of pines surrounding the little hill by the church?

This is "Church Hill", not named as strangers often suppose from the little white church in the valley below, but from the fact that there was built on its summit nearly two hundred years ago, the *first Episcopal Church to be built in the Old Plymouth Colony*.

Cornet Stetson must have passed this hill almost daily two hundred and fifty years ago as he followed the "Indian Path" so called, to his mill on the "Herring Brook" or took the "Town Way", over which we have just journeyed, to the "Countrey Road" on his way to Plymouth.

A very interesting spot to all who are interested in the early history of the Stetson family, is this old "Episcopal Church Hill." A knoll at the south eastern end of the hill was evidently the ancient burying ground of the family, for the few stones left standing here, among the scores of unmarked graves, all bear the name of Stetson.

In the centre, surrounded by several unmarked graves, is a solitary stone inscribed, "Gershom Stetson, who died April 5, 1754 in the seventy-seventh year of his age." (Plate 1.) This is one of the oldest stones on the hill. Are the adjacent graves those of other members of his family?

Gershom was a "shop keeper," in other words he was the "village store keeper", a son of Thomas the Cornet's third son, and born away back in 1677 on the homestead by the river that the Cornet deeded to Thomas previous to 1674. (Plate 4.)

According to Deane his farm was just north of Church Hill, and his house (and store?) twenty rods south of Captain Joseph Sylvester's. He married Deacon King's daughter Anne and was a very active member of the Second Church of Scituate.

A little further south is the more recent stone marking the grave of Warren Stetson, who was the son of Melzar and Clarisa (Stetson) Stetson, and a descendant of both Joseph and Benjamin. Are the surrounding graves those of descendants of Joseph and Benjamin?

Turning toward the West we see through the Pine trees, the headstone of Silas Stetson, son of Silas, born March 1759 and of his wife Martha Milton. Also of Samuel, son of Silas 2nd born April 1793 and of his wife Mary Kimball, the principal founder of the little Methodist Church below the hill.



Plate 1

This second Silas, and Samuel, were the third and fourth generations respectively, to occupy the old homestead deeded to Sergeant Samuel by his father the Cornet in 1700 using the words "*it being the land on which said Samuel now dwells.*"

Both were born and both died in this little old house still standing near the head of the lane leading to the Cornet's old home. Plate 2.

One has but to visit the attic of this house to be convinced of its antiquity. Here are the crooked rafters, crudely hewn into

shape, corvered with roughly sawn boards — perhaps from the Cornet's mill — here the little window where Patience and Lydia, Jonah and Seth, and all the rest must have dressed and shivered those cold winter mornings, more than two hundred years ago. The huge chimney with its rude fireplace and brick oven has long since been replaced by one much smaller, though scarcely less rude.

It seems a reasonable supposition that this house was built by Samuel as early as 1678, the year before his first child was born.

Silas 2nd known as "Uncle Silas" was the one of whom the story is told by the older people (said to have been repeated by the minister himself, and illustrating that rum was plenty and tumblers scarce) that "Uncle Silas" when he saw the minister coming over the hill by Micah's, rushed to his gate and shouted at the top of his voice to his neighbor William Haskins — "Bring home the tumbler quick! the ministers comin."

At our feet on the eastern slope are the graves of Captain Thomas Stetson, his wife Lydia Drew and his three unmarried daughters, the most recent and *only known* occupants of a long line of obscure and unmarked graves. Captain Thomas was the fifth generation from the Cornet via both Benjamin and Joseph, and the fifth generation to occupy the Captain Benjamin homestead at Bald Hill by the River, (Plate 3) where he was born November 1769 and where he died. Naturally we suppose the adjacent graves to be those of previous generations of Captain Benjamin's line.

No one knows to this day where the Cornet or any of his children were buried. but here on Church Hill among the very earliest marked stones we find his grandchildren. This untillable sandy mound on the "Common lands" in the very centre of the community was their natural burying ground. Who shall say that the Cornet himself was not laid away under one of these mounds.?

All the Stetsons however were not buried here. At the West end of the hill near where the Episcopal Church stood and where was evidently the Episcopal burying ground we find the grave of Ebenezer Stetson who was born July 1693, died 1788, also his wife Lydia Barker who died in 1776. These stones are fast crumbling. The inscriptions are still legible but it is evident that they will not withstand the storms and frosts of many winters.

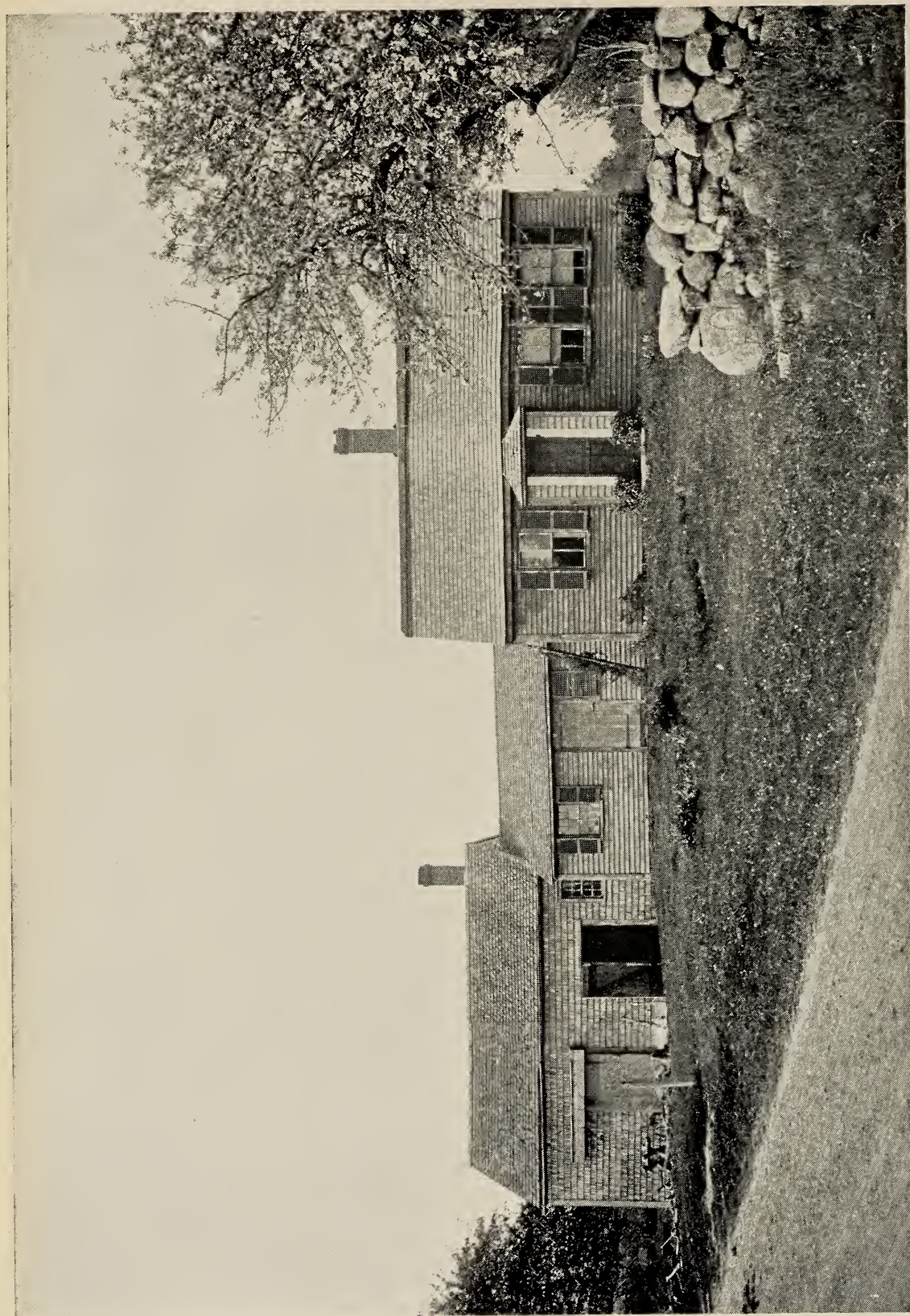


Plate 2—SERGEANT SAMUEL STETSON HOMESTEAD—Norwell (Scituate)

The Cornet gave Samuel a deed of this farm in 1700—a short time before making his will—describing it as “the land on which said Samuel now dwells.” It is quite possible that the house was built by Samuel as early as 1678, the year before his first child was born.

Ebenezer, (previously mentioned as the ship builder at Bald Hill) lived for some years at Church Hill on the spot where Eugene Stetson's house now stands then succeeded to the estate his grandfather the Cornet, deeded to Thomas previous to 1674. (Plate 4.) He died here by the River where he was born, aged eighty-five years.

Mr. Barry in his History of the family says of Ebenezer. "It is said that he was a very zealous churchman and built the church on Church Hill at his own expense." It is remarkable how many of these traditions have since been verified. The following is from the Plymouth Records, Book 29, Page 20.

"Indenture made 7th day of Jan. Ano. Dom. 1733, between Ebenezer Stetson and Lydia his wife, on the one part, and Addington Davenport, clerk and Rector of ye Episcopal Church in Scituate and wardens of said church on the other part." Then follows the record of the sale "*to Addington Davenport for £300 a certain house built for the worship of God in Scituate and the ground on which it stands.*" containing "one half acre bounded on east line upon the *training field* there measuring 10 rods, on the south, on the land of Henry Stockbridge, 8 rods — on the West on land of sd. Stetson 10 rods — on North on land of sd. Stetson 8 rods."

"JNO. CUSHING JR. Just. Pac."

There are records showing that Addington Davenport was the 1st Rector, that the church edifice was opened for Devine Worship October 11, 1731, eight being baptised.

We judge from this that *the church building was built by Ebenezer Stetson for the worship of God, on a portion of his own land, and occupied by the society several years before it was purchased of him in 1733, for three hundred pounds by a committee of the church consisting of Rev. Addington Davenport and others.*

Rev. Addington Davenport was afterwards the first Rector of Trinity Church, Boston.

Not far from the grave of Ebenezer and near the graves of Rev. Ebenezer Thompson and Rev. William Wheeler (successors of Rev. Addington Davenport as Rector of St. Andrews) is the grave of John Stetson, (Plate 5,) who died in 1787, aged ninety-three, being a son of Sergeant Samuel, and born in 1694 in the old house before mentioned, (Plate 2,) at the head of the lane.

Here also are the stones marking the graves of six of his children



Plate 3—THE LANDING AT BALD HILL—North River

The home of Captain Benjamin Stetson and five generations of his descendants

"In consideration of the fondest love and fatherly affection which I bear my well beloved son * * * Said Robert Stetson reserves for himself and any that shall come of his family and possess his habitation, a way to and from the landing place at "Bald Hill" free and without any molestation, hindrance or disturbance," (Robert to Benjamin—1674—Plym. Rec. B. 1. P. 28.)

and two of his three wives, his first wife having died in 1728 before the church was built.

John and all his family were Episcopalians. This John was a very enterprising man, he built the first tide mill at Scituate Harbor, and in 1730 purchased the Wanton estate on the River one-half mile below the Cornets', where he built vessels and reared his family of seven children.

The fact that the records of St. Andrews for the first fifty years of its existence, are lost, is very unfortunate for us, as these records must have contained much of great importance to us, for as we shall see, the Stetsons were closely connected with the early history of St. Andrews.

When the Records do begin in 1780 we find *Captain Benjamin James to be Parish Clerk*. Captain James was son of Deacon John James and his wife Eunice Stetson the oldest daughter of Captain Benjamin Stetson.

Benjamin James Jr. (son of Captain James) and Joseph Donel were the wardens. Samuel Donel, son of Joseph (afterwards for many years warden of St. Andrews) married *Jane Barstow*, sister of *Thomas Barstow* (who was also warden, when St. Andrews was incorporated in 1797) — *and both direct descendents of the Cornet via his son Ensign John.*

The female members of the church at this time (1780) are not mentioned, but among the male members we find:

John Stetson (son of Sergeant Samuel), *Lincoln Stetson* (son of Mathew, and a descendant of both Joseph and Benjamin) and *Samuel Stetson* (son of John).

Two years later this *Samuel was chosen vestryman and assistant Parish Clerk*. These offices he held until his death which his gravestone tells us occurred in 1798 at the early age of forty. On a later list we find the name of *Nathaniel Stetson*, whose grave stone and that of his wife is also here on the hill.

First on the list of vestrymen is the name of *Dr. Benjamin Stockbridge*, which place at the head of the list he continued to hold for twenty-nine years, to the date of his death. He was annually chosen to represent the church at the convention.

Mr. Deane in his History of Scituate published eighty-two years ago says of Dr. Stockbridge "He succeeded to the Mansion House

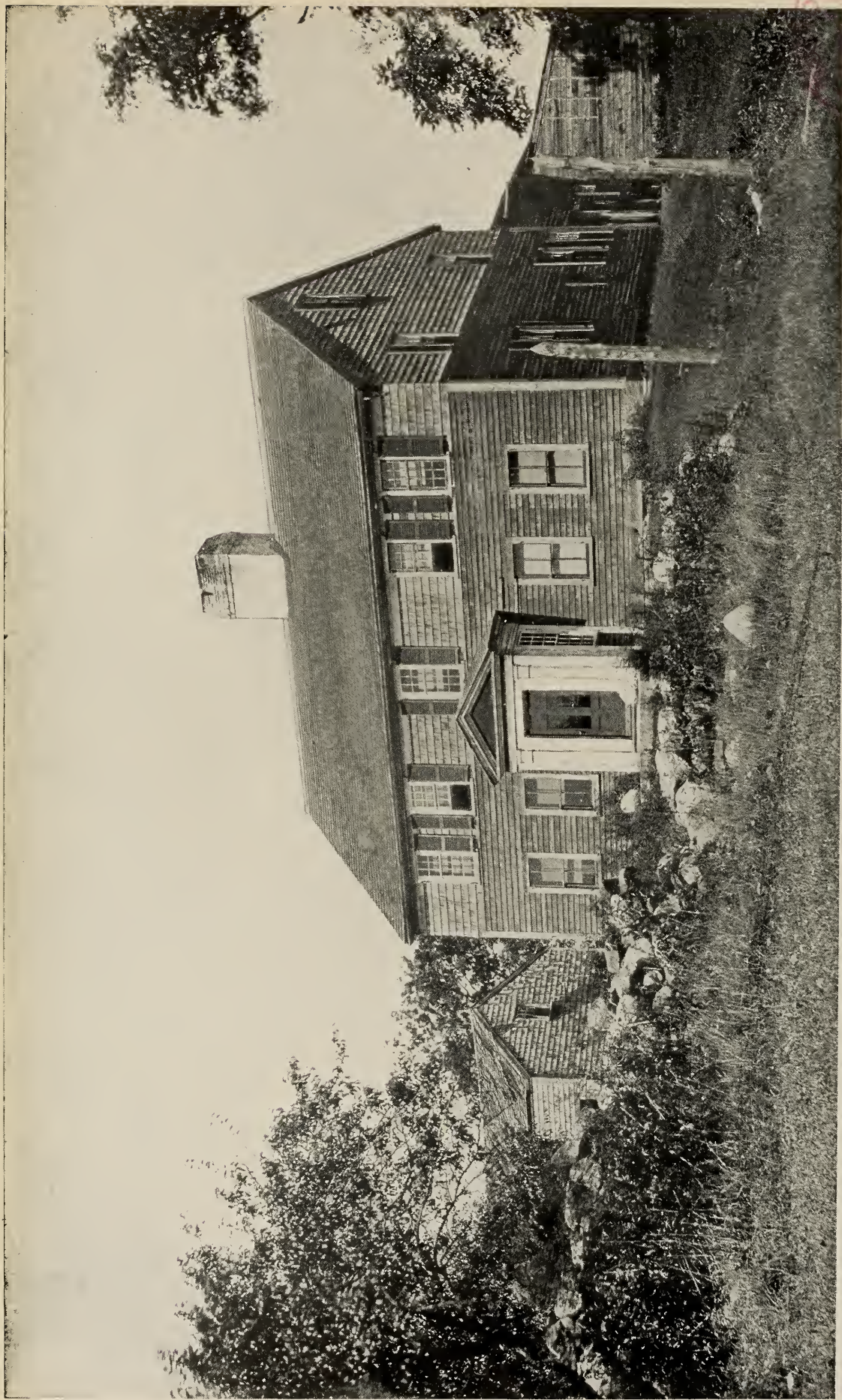


Plate 4—THOMAS STETSON PLACE

This farm was deeded by the Cornet to his son Thomas previous to 1674.

On this spot Thomas and his wife Sarah (Dodson) reared their family of 12 children, all of whom lived to be married. After the death of Ebenezer this farm of "100 acres together with buildings thereon" was sold in 1781 to Michael Ford (by Noah Brooks, admr., husband of Ebenezer's granddaughter Hannah) for 4104s. Thomas and his son Ebenezer having occupied it for over 100 years. The old house was remodeled by Michael Ford about 1785. While this was being done his family lived in the "shop," but how much of the original house remains is not known.

of his father and attained a high reputation as a physician, was pleasing in his manners and accomplished in all literature and tasteful arts." *The wife of Dr. Stockbridge was Elenor, daughter of John Stetson*, whose only posterity beyond the second generation, was by the way of Elenor's children.

Barry says of Elenor, "she was the belle of her day and is said to have been very beautiful." Her son Dr. Stockbridge, Jr. died early and unmarried but, *her oldest daughter Ruth married Ebenezer Thompson, Jr. son of Rev. Ebenezer Thompson, and brother of Jane, wife of Rev. William Wheeler*, whose graves we have just noticed.

Later we notice on the Records of St. Andrews under date of September 25, 1808 — "Baptised by Rev. William Wheeler, Elenor and Alice, children of Ebenezer Thompson of Providence by Ruth his wife, at Mrs. Thompson's house in Scituate— on Sunday — by candle light — Sponsors, the mother and Elenor (Stetson) Stockbridge, the grandmother."

Mrs. Thompson was at this time, at the age of ninety-four, still living in the old parsonage "under the hill."

At the beginning of the Revolution a committee chosen for the purpose, "exhibited" to the town of Scituate, a list of twenty-four names of those who were considered "dangerous to the public peace and safety." You will be grieved to learn that among these "Tories" were Captain Benjamin James, Benjamin James, Jr., Ebenezer Stetson, Dr. Benjamin Stockbridge, Dr. Charles Stockbridge, John Stetson, Samuel Stetson and Charles Curtis. This was plainly because they were of the Church of England, however it seems they were all forgiven with the exception of Charles Curtis, a talented young man of liberal education who left town and became a British officer. His wife was Lydia James, daughter of Deacon John James and Eunice Stetson, his wife, and grand-daughter of Captain Benjamin Stetson.

I know some of our friends laugh at those of us who are they say "forever searching for missing links" — "rejoicing in the achievements of their ancestors" etc. No doubt some of the "kindred" will smile, and think we are over zealous in our efforts to show how thoroughly the early Stetsons were identified with the old Church and locality.

This reminds us of the amusing story related at an early meeting

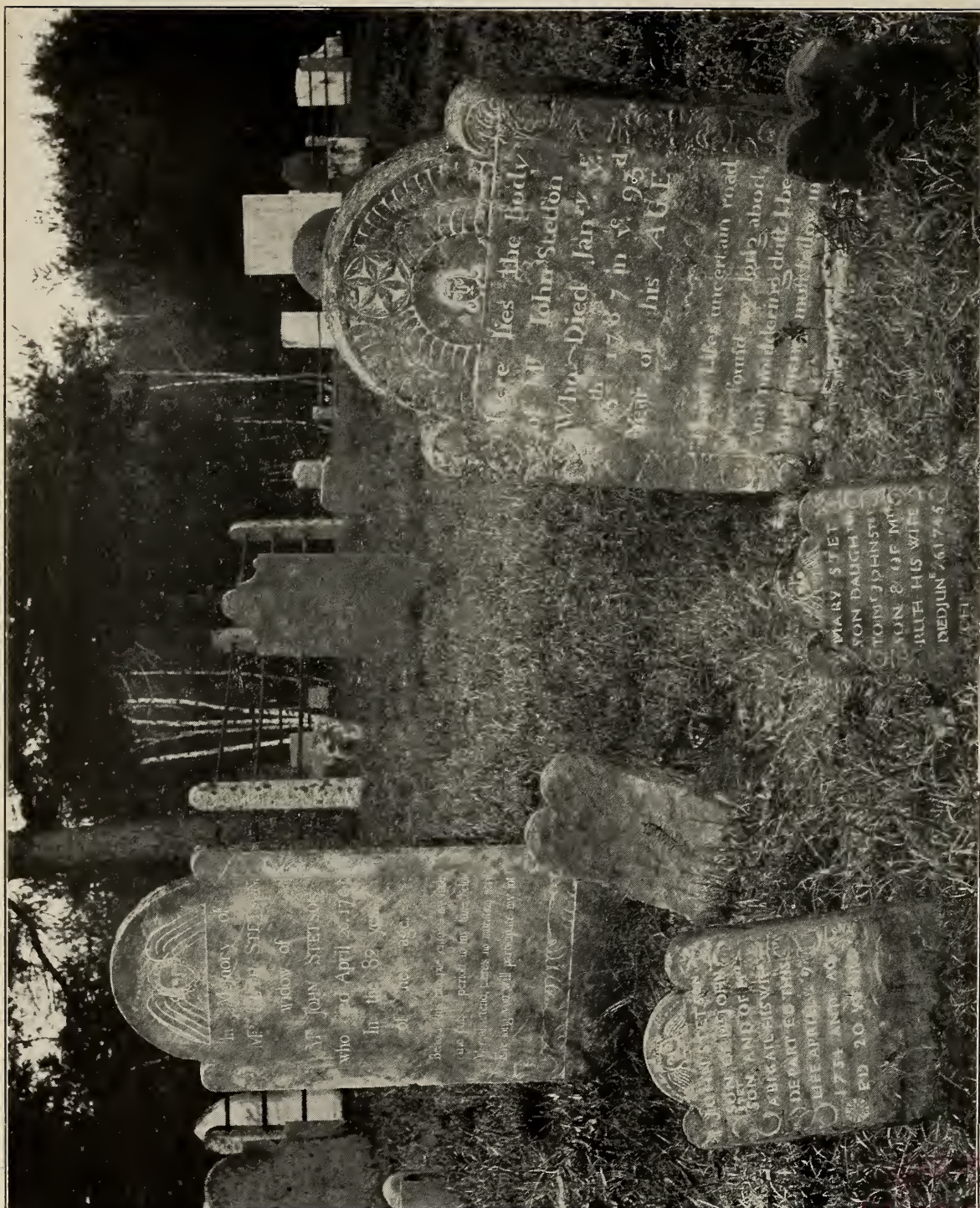


Plate 5—VIEW ON CHURCH HILL

The old Episcopal Church built by Ebenezer Stetson in 1731 stood near the birches in the background.

On the Ruth Stetson stone appear these words of consolation:

"Behold this little pile enfolds my limbs
And puts a period to my time below.
Mortal, attend, there's no mutation here
Ere long you will participate my lot."

ON.
PUBLIC
LIBRARY

of the "kindred" by the late Robert Stetson Gorham, our esteemed friend and former Vice-President.

The incident happened on the occasion of our President's first visit to the home of his ancestor. The party consisted of Mr. Gorham's and his mother's family, his guest Mr. Francis Lynde Stetson and of the writer, who by Mr. Gorham's kind invitation acted as guide.

Mr. Gorham's mother, a loyal descendant of the Cornet, who took much honest pride in her family name of *Beach*, was of the party.

You can imagine the sensations of our party as we slowly and reverently approached for the first time our "ancestral home" to find it inhabited by *colored people* and to behold in the doorway, and at the windows, roguish faced little picaninnies.

We were still more surprised when in answer to Mr. Gorham's questions we learned that they were *not Stetsons at all* but *Beaches*. The children of one *Alden Beach*.

Mrs. Gorham — the dear old lady — thoroughly appreciated the joke as did her son Robert, who found frequent occasion to remind her of it. (Plate 6.)

Over the way, across the "common" (so called to this day) in the tomb near the entrance to the new burying ground, and near where Gershom's house stood two hundred years ago, sleeps the redoubtable Joshua, a descendent of Joseph, son of Abner, and the last in line to occupy the Abner Stetson House by the River. (See page 59) There were all kinds of Stetsons in those days, but "Uncle Josh" was of a type peculiar to himself. He was a famous wag in the shipyards and his droll sayings, uttered in a squeaky, nasal tone—with a peculiar drawl—were quoted far and near.

We are told that he enjoyed the reputation of being the "wickedest man in the yards," and was not at all careful in his selection of adjectives.

It is said that on the evening of one of the "Dark Days" the heavens became red and people were even more alarmed than they had been during the day. The girls had made plans to attend a party at Captain Tom Church's, but, fearful that the "Judgment Day" had really come, they appealed to "Uncle Josh." "Wust I ever heered" said "Uncle Josh" "Damn fools! D'ye spose the Jedgemint *day* is a comin in the NIGHT?"



Plate 6—MR. GORHAM'S PARTY AT THE "SHRINE" 1901

Over across the valley to the south, at the "4 corners," we see above the treetops, the spire of St. Andrew's "new" home, itself in the one hundred third year of it's age, (Plate 7.) Through the green meadows in the valley winds the "Herring Brook" on its turbulent way from "Jonah's mill" to the River. Notice the huge farmhouse by the bridge. That old house has sheltered four generations of Barstows, all descendants of Cornet Stetson, for the wife of Thomas Barstow of the first generation was Sarah Studley, the grand-daughter of Abigail Stetson and great granddaughter of Ensign John Stetson. Their sons were Captain Thomas, Captain Nathaniel, Colonel John B. and Deacon Elijah, all ship-builders on the River and ancestors of most of the Barstows who have since lived in this vicinity.

Just after the "Herring Brook" leaves the wood and just before it begins its crazy journey through the meadows, right here where it flows nearest to Church Hill, Charles Stockbridge in 1674 built his little saw mill. We are interested in this mill because as early as 1692, the Cornet's fourth son Sergeant Samuel, was one of the proprietors. This was probably Samuel's chief occupation, for in 1726, thirty four years after, he was still interested, as on that date he deeded "one fourth the Corn Mill" to his son Jonah, who (according to Briggs) three years later, in 1729 purchased of Thomas Stockbridge "one fourth of the saw mill." After this time it was known as "Jonah's mill." It was inherited by Jonah 2nd, and one hundred years later in 1831 Dean's History still describes it as "Jonah's Mill."

The sound of the grinding has ceased, and the Saw-mill is no more. Yet, this old "water-power" is still in the family, for the Sylvesters who for two generations have used it so successfully, are the ninth generation from the Cornet via his son Thomas.

A little further up the stream we come to the Cornet's old dam, the site of one of the oldest mills in the Colony, (Plate 8.) On the Scituate Records we read.

"We whose names are under-written doe testifie that we were with Robert Studson at work the 8th of February 1656, to provide Timber to build the sawmill that the sd. Robert Studson hath built."

Signed with the marks of "Joseph Wormall" — "John Hudson," and "Joseph Bearstow."

Some twenty years later, Abigail, the daughter of this John Hudson became the wife of the Cornet's son "Ensign" John.

Local historians have made us familiar with the Cornet's Mill on the "3rd Herring Brook", and the story of its burning by the Indians in 1676, but they do not tell us of The Cornet's other "Mill near the Indian Head River" or "at Drinkwater." The question "Who was the original proprietor of this Mill?" has long been a subject of controversy.

In Mr. Dwelley's recent History of Hanover, he says, "It is certain that there was a mill here in 1694 and that it stood on land granted to Robert Stetson by the Colony Court." He further says. Was this mill constructed by Cornet Stetson? and when?

In trying to answer these questions I found among the old records



Plate 7—ST. ANDREWS

After worshipping for 80 years in the Old Church on Church Hill, the Society moved across the brook and built this building at Hanover Four Corners, where they have worshiped for 103 years.

of the Supreme Court at Boston the following, which establishes the fact that *the sawmill was here in 1680 and that Cornet Stetson was the sole proprietor.*

Supreme Court Records. Case No. 2036. October 24, 1681.

“*Robert Stetson sells to Ralph Powel — Chas. Stockbridge, senr. — Isaac Barker — and Robert Barker, Jr. his sawmill, standing or being at or near a river called Indian Head River together with all his right, title and interest of, into, or unto, that tract or parcel of upland swamp or meadow or whatever else lying or being about sd. mill, above or to the westward of ye swamp commonly called George Wampole’s swamp. That is to say — all the sd. Robert Stetson’s right, title and interest, of into or unto the 200 acres granted unto him, ye sd. Stetson by Court of the Jurisdiction of New Plymouth which grant is specified in an instrument or act of said court bearing date of the 7th day of June 1665.*”

Then follow references to “White Oak tree marked on North side R. \$.” also to “heap of rocks by brookside” and “also all his interest in a parcel of land — 80 acres — granted him by the town of Scituate.”

“Supreme Court Record Case No. 2038 Indenture, 24. Oct. 1680. Acknowledged 26 Oct. 1681 to be the Act of Robert Stetson between *Robert Stetson senr.* and Ralph Powel of Marshfield, Planter — Charles Stockbridge of Scituate mill-wright — Isaac Barker of Duxborough, Planter — and Robert Parker, Jr. of Duxborough, Planter.

Witness that the said *Robert Stetson Senior* for, and in consideration of the sum of three hundred pounds currant silver money, or instead thereof the like sum of three hundred pounds in good merchantable pine boards at prices current for ready silver money, secured unto him by bond under the hand and seal of above”

* * * * * “*Hannah wife of said Robert Stetson relinquishes her right of dower.*”

Witnessed by { WILLIAM BARREL,
 \ THOMAS MIGHILL.

Now — Did the Cornet build his mill here soon after he received this grant from the Colony in 1665?

We believe so, and that he chose land in this particular situation



Plate 8—SITE OF “CORNET’S MILL”—Burned by the Indians May 20th, 1676.

Here in the midst of an almost impenetrable thicket it remains just as the Indians left it 238 years ago.

because of the excellent water privilege and for the express purpose of building his mill.

It is at least *certain that he owned this tract in 1665 and sold it in 1680*, four years after the Indian raid, *with a mill in it*, for the "Goodlye summe" of three hundred pound silver money.

This record also gives us the information that *the mother of the Cornet's children was Hannah* and that *she was living in 1681*.

What perhaps appeals to us most in the life of the Cornet is his long service as — Member of The Council of War and "*Cornet of The Troopers*."

His selection as escort and protector of the commissioners who, early in Philip's War, visited that chief at Mt. Hope in the vain endeavor to persuade him to "bury the hatchet", appeals to us strongly.

We must all feel a thrill of pride, as we picture the veteran horseman, already well past his sixtieth year, leading his little band of Troopers into the heart of the enemy's country.

For those who would like to know just what appears on the Colony Records with reference to this expedition, I copy the following from the records of the Court.

"The court alowed unto the Major in reference to his journey to the sachem Philip in behalf of the countrey, the summe of five pounds.

To Captaine Southworth for his paines and time, forty shillings.

To the treasurer respecting his long time and paines, three pounds.

To Cornet Robert Studson his horse time and paines, forty shillings.

"Two shillings and sixpence a day is alowed unto the troopers, to each of them that went on the above said expedition, viz. to each of them for him and his horse."

Now "*The Major*" was *Josiah Winslow*, son of Governor Edward Winslow, and at this time at the head of the military. A little later he was made *Governor of Plymouth* and appointed "*General in Chief of all the forces of the United Colonies*."

Captain Constant Southworth who received the same pay as the Cornet was step-son of Governor Bradford, by whom he was educated. He was Governor of the Kennebec Plantation and assistant Governor of Plymouth.

While the "*Treasurer*" who received pay for his long time and paines, was *Thomas Southworth*, a brother of Constant, and *Treasurer of the Colony*.

We observe that the Cornet was ⁱⁿ a good company.

April 1752 Mr William Sylvester Doctor for half
 a load hay at my barn — 04-10-00
 more to two bushels oats — 01-04-00
 to half bushel seed corn — 00-15-00
 to schooling your son William five — 01-13-00
 weeks four days

October 1746 Charles Johnson Doctor to Matthew to carry
 your wife to marshfield — 10-04-00
 January 1749 to a prong to your glass river
 December to schooling your boy to February the fourth
 to a peck of flax seed — 00-06-00
 to a glass spare mends 2 prongs — 00-06-00
 to a copper wire spot — 00-01-00
 November 1751 to schooling Charles 13 weeks

November 1743 Othenial Pratt Doctor for pasturing
 his oxen —
 1744 January 5 day Mr Pratt & Coxs to school
 Jonathan to school 12 day of January
 and school them while March —
 January 1752 Jonathan to school —
 December 1755 Doctor for load hay — 08-00-00

to your part of a load wood to school
 have my oxen and Coxs to help drive
 to my oxen a load to the swamp
 January to half a bushel Coxs — 00-17-00
 1747 to my oxen a day to drive
 him out of the river — 00-15-00

Plates 9 and 10—Items from the Account Book of Matthew Stetson, 1st.

Proving that there was a schoolhouse here in 1747 and that Matthew was the school master.

(See better specimens of school accounts in book No. 3.)

Wm. Sylvester, Sr., was grandson of Capt. Joseph Sylvester and lived on the spot 40 rods north of Church Hill, where stood his grandfather's house, burned by the Indians in 1676, the same day they burned the Cornet's mill. Wm. sold this place to Capt. Anthony Waterman who built the present mansion house in 1761.*

Othenial Pratt lived at Hanover near the "4 corners." Chas. Sampson probably lived across the river in Marshfield. Nathl. Church, Jr., (last account) lived south of Bald Hill near the river.

* Recently burned.

Very near to Church Hill and on the "Common land", there was in 1728 a schoolhouse. Just where, we do not know, but in 1728 Gershom Stetson "Dealer" purchased of Ignatius Turner, "a messuage or parcel of land, adjoining his other land.*** beginning at corner of division of ye common lands, near ye road at ye west side, and to ye northward of *ye schoolhouse* called Perrys-schoolhouse."

Was this East of the church, on the "common lands" or "training field?" and where until recently from away back beyond the memory of the oldest inhabitant, the school-house has stood?

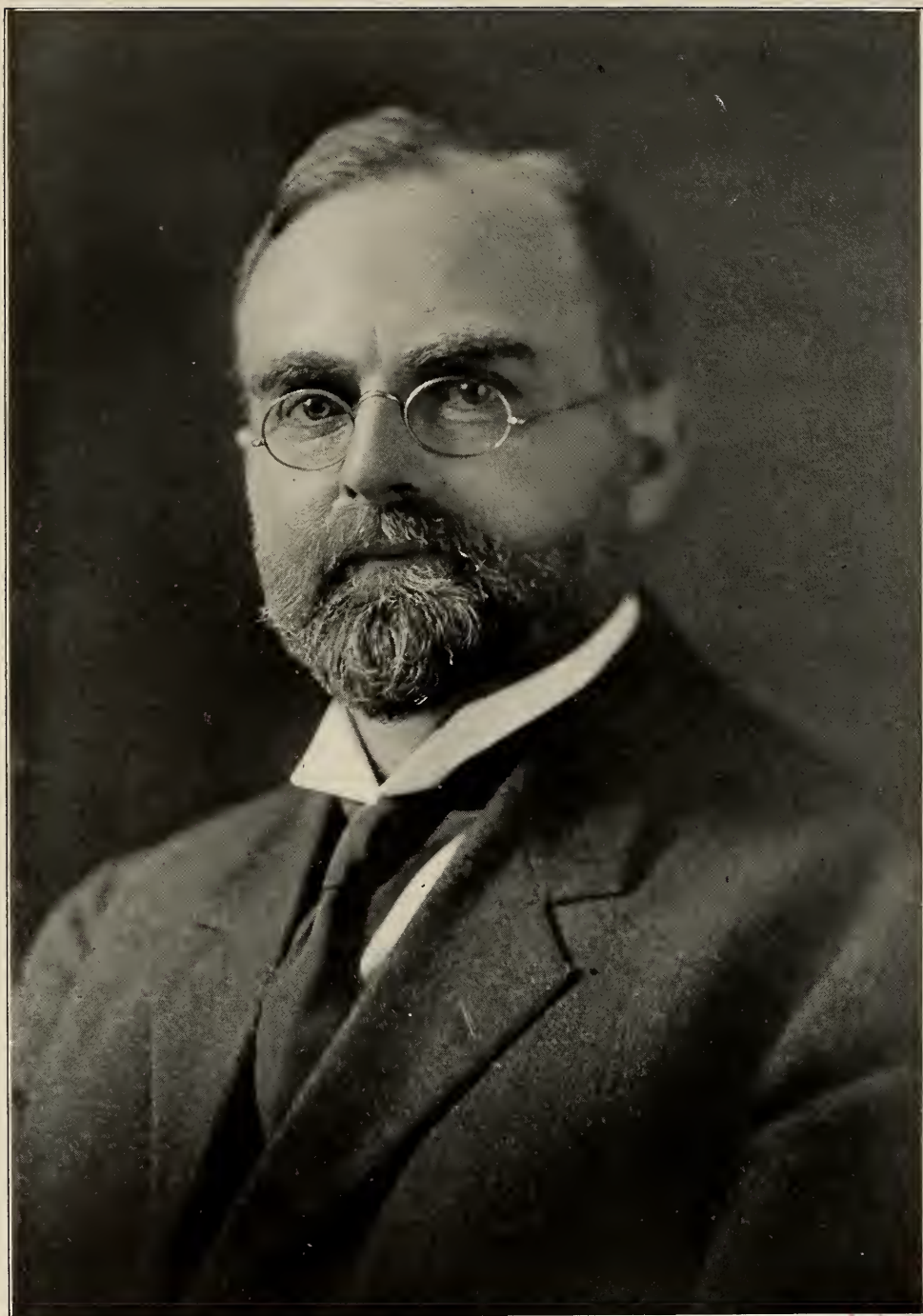
We believe so, and that it was here that Matthew Stetson taught the village school one hundred sixty-five years ago.

From Matthew's account book kept by him on Bald Hill from 1739 on, we learn from several references to the "school house" and many charges against his neighbors for "schooling" their boys, that during the years 1749-1750-1751 and 1754 (at least) Matthew was the village schoolmaster. (Plates 9 and 10.)

Here then, on Old Church Hill, midway between the Cornet's home and sawmill, close by the mill of "Sergeant" Samuel and the two Jonahs, and near the home and village store of Gershom, here where Matthew "The village master taught his littleschool" here where Ebenezer built with his own hand, on his own land the church where so many of the early Stetsons worshiped, and where they are buried — here on this old neglected hill, so rich in family associations, let us — "The Stetson Kindred" — erect a fitting monument to the honor of our beloved ancestor, Cornet Robert Stetson.

NELSON M. STETSON,

Abington, Mass., Aug. 16, 1913.



WILLIS KIMBALL STETSON, A. M.

Librarian of Free Public Library, New Haven, Conn.

(A descendant of Sergeant Samuel.)

LIBRARY

WILLIS KIMBALL STETSON.

Willis Kimball Stetson was born in Natick, Massachusetts, May 8, 1858, the son of Daniel Kimball and Mary Weeks (Sanborn) Stetson and grandson of Samuel and Mary Kimball Stetson. He was graduated from Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, A. B., 1881, A. M., 1884, and has been Librarian of the New Haven Public Library for twenty-seven years. Mr. Stetson is a member of the Congregational Club of New Haven.

November 25, 1886, he married Lillian Alla Minor of Middletown and they have three children.

Mr. Stetson is the seventh generation from the Cornet via Sergeant Samuel, and each of these ancestors away back to the Cornet lived in the little house near the head of the lane. (Page 118) His grandparents and great grandparents are buried on Church Hill, as are probably the earlier generations, although these earlier graves are unmarked.

Mr. Stetson's grandmother, beloved by every one and familiarly known as "Mother" Stetson, an enthusiastic Methodist, was the leading spirit in establishing the little church at Church Hill, and the early meetings were held in the old home.

"Mother" Stetson lived to see all her children honored members of the church and community, and her son, William Henry, educated at Wilbraham, an able member of the New England Conference and Presiding Elder of the New Bedford District.

CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN OF CORNET STETSON.

From Barry's Records, with additions and corrections.

CORNET ROBERT STETSON born 1613, died 1702—1703. Settled in Scituate, Mass., 1634. Married 1st Hannah———?who was living in 1681. M. 2nd Mary Bryant, widow of John Bryant. She was the wife of his old age and outlived him.

Joseph, b. 1639, d. 1722—1724. M. 1st Ruth Hiland, who died soon after birth of Joseph 2nd. M. 2nd Prudence———? Joseph lived in Scituate on Cornet's old homestead.

Joseph, 1667, m. Hannah Oldham, of Pembroke, 10 ch.

Robert, 1670, m. Mary Collamore, of S., 8 ch.

Lois 1672, m. Dea. Joseph Ford, of Marshfield, 9 ch.

William, 1673, d. 1699, no ch.

Desire, 1676, m. Richard Sylvester, 5 ch. S. records.

Prudence, 1678, m. Ebenr. Leach of Bridgewater.

Samuel, 1679, m. Elizabeth, 7 ch.

Hannah, 1682, m. Solomon Lincoln, of S., 4 ch.

(Capt.) **Benjamin**, b. 1641, d. 1711, m. to Bethia Hawke, of Hingham, Aug. 1665, by Peter Hobart. Lived in Scituate by the river at Bald Hill, deeded to him by the Cornet in 1674. Survived Canada Expedition. Capt. of Scituate company. Deputy to Plymouth. Rep. to Boston.

Benjamin, 1668, m. Grace Turner, of S., 1690, 7 ch.

Matthew, 1669, d. 1690, in Canada Expedition.

James, 1670, m. Susanna Townsend, of Boston, 5 ch. (others?)

Samuel, 1673, m. Rebecca Turner, 1719, 3 ch.

Bethia, 1675, m. Stephen Andrews, Hing., 3 ch. on Hing. record.

Mary, 1678, m. James Partridge, of Duxbury.

Hannah, 1679, m. Timothy Tileston, of Dorchester, 1697, 5 ch. D. records.

Deborah, 1681, m. Saml. Fisher, of Duxbury.

Eunice, 1683, m. Dea. John James, of S., 8 ch.

Margaret, 1684, d. 1685.

Thomas, b. 1643, will dated 1729. M. Sarah Dodson, lived in Scituate by the river. His farm being between the Cornet's and Capt. Benjamin's, was deeded to him previous to 1674 by his father.

Hannah, 1671, m. John Foster, 10 ch.

Thomas, 1674, m. Mary Bolston, of Boston, 1715, 7 ch.

Gershom, 1676, m. 1st Mary Holmes, 2nd Anne King, 1 ch.

Sarah, 1678, m. Bennet.

Joshua, 1680, m. left children but no record.

Caleb, 1682, m. Abigail Bradford, of Plym., 4 ch.

Elisha, 1684, m. Abigail Brewster, of Kingston.

Elijah, 1686, m. Ruth Chittenden, 1710, 7 ch.

Mary, 1691, m. Nathan Basset, of Sandwich.

Ebenezer, 1693, m. Lydia Barker, of S., 5 ch.

Ruth, 1695, m. Capt. Nehemiah Randall, Scit. records, 7 ch.

Margaret, 1698, m. Nathan Pickels, of S., 1731, no ch.

(Sergt.) **Samuel**, b 1646, m. Lydia Pickles, dau. of Jonas Pickles and granddau. of Elder Wm. Hatch. His farm was in Scituate west of Cornet's, a part of the Cornet's farm.

(Dea.) Samuel, 1679, m. Desire Dunham, of Mansfield, Conn., Mar. 11, 1712, 6 ch. Elizabeth, 1682.

Lydia, 1683.

Patience, 1687.

Jonah, b. 1691, m. Mercy Turner, 1720, 3 ch.

Mary, b. 1692, m. Joseph Pitcher, 1714, 1 ch.

John, b. 1694, m. 1st Ewel, m. 2nd Abigail, 6 ch.; m. 3d Ruth Penniman, of Weymouth, 1ch.

Silas, b. 1696, m. Mary Bracket, 1 son.

Seth, b. 1698, m. Elizabeth Rose, of Hanover, 1727, 7 ch.

Nathaniel, b. 1700, m. Rebecca Brisco, of Hanover, 3 ch.

Deborah, b. 1704, m. Jonathan Jackson, 1732, 1 son.

Rachael, m. Saml. Stetson, son of Joseph, 1731, (2nd wife.)

(Ensign) **John**, b. 1648, d. in Canada Expedition, 1690, age 42, m. Abigail, d. of John Hudson. Lived in Scituate.

Abigail, 1677, m. Benoni Studley, 1701, 6 ch.

John, bap. 1679, d. 1730, nothing known of him.

Honour, b. 1684, m. Thos. Hunt, of Duxbury.

Barnabas, 1688, d. 1742, no records.

Anne, Dec. 1690.

Eunice, b. 1650, m. Timothy Rogers, of Marshfield.

Samuel, b. 1670, m. 1697, Jael Huet, 8 ch.

Eunice, m. Saml. Witherell, 1698, 10 ch.

Hannah, m. Samuel Lapham, 1701, 8 ch.

Mary, m. John Carver, 1709, of Marshfield, 4 ch. There were certainly others, no record.

Timothy, d. young.

Bethia, prob. d. unmarried.

John, m. Hannah Sprague, 7 ch. (probably others.)

Honour, m. Wm. Torrey, son of Dea. James, 6 ch.

Timothy, b. 1690, m. Lydia Hatch, 1719, 10 ch.

———, d. young.

Lois, b. 1652, not named in Cornet's will; probably died young.

Robert, b. 1653, m. Joanna Brooks in 1676. House burned same year by Narragansett Indians. Was "wild youth." "To my son Robert, my wearing clothes, which with what I have formerly given him I deem convenient for him." *Cornet's will*. R. lived in Pembroke.

Isaac, 10 children.

Timothy, d. 1759, in Pembroke.

Resolved, d. 1749, in Pembroke.

Sarah, m. Ebenr. Bennet, of Middleboro.

Nathaniel, m. Susanna Randall, 1710, 1 ch.

Timothy, b. 1657, not named in father's will; probably d. young.

(Will anyone discovering errors in the above kindly notify the secretary.)



EZRA H. STETSON
South Weymouth, Mass.
Manufacturer of the "Stetson Shoe."
(A descendant of Joseph.)



HEZEKIAH STETSON HOMESTEAD

Sumner, Maine.—Where Ezra H. Stetson was born.

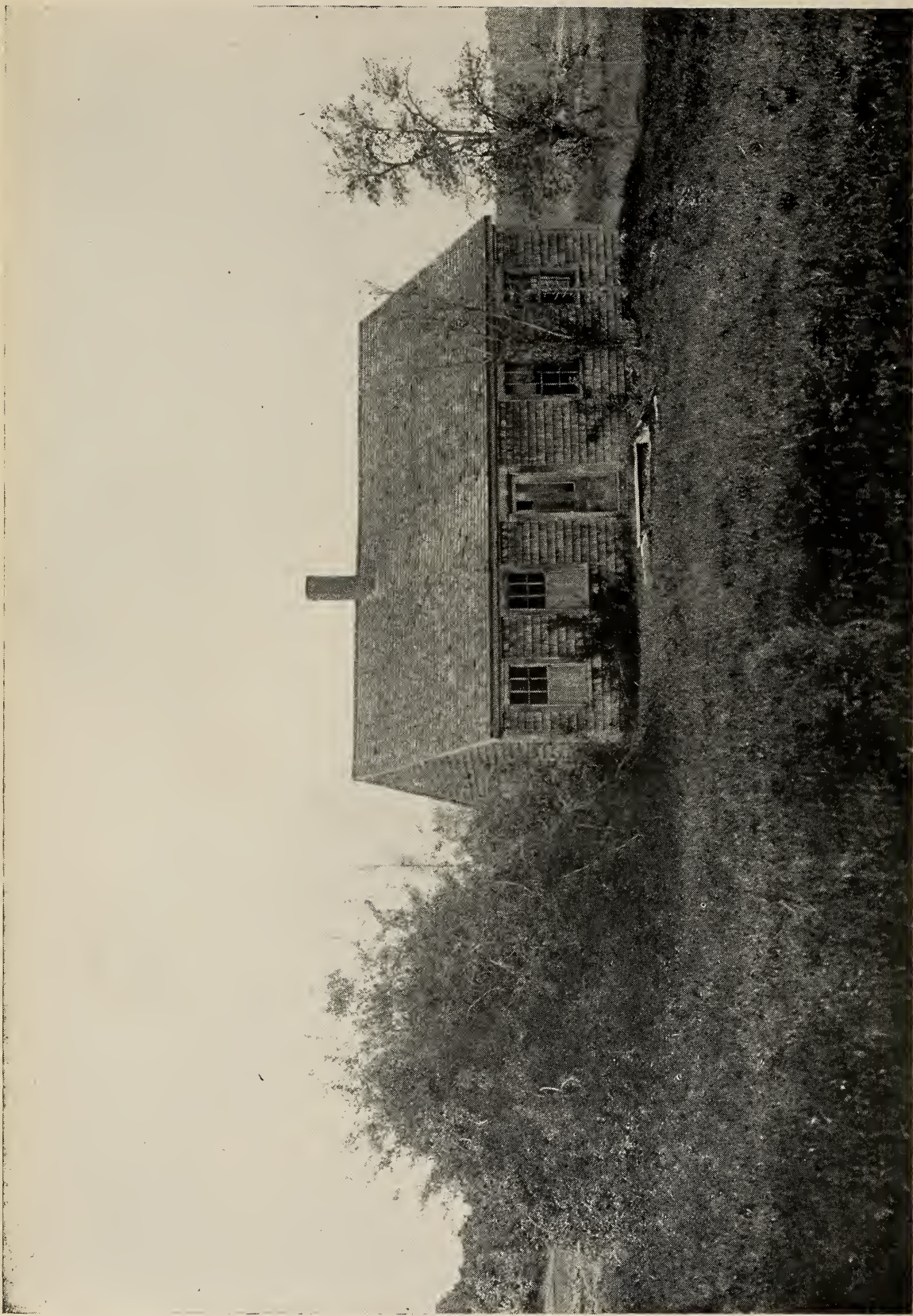
The children feeding the chickens are Richard Palmer and his sister Muriel. They are the 10th generation from the Cornet and the fifth to live in the old house.

EZRA H. STETSON.

In 1796, at the age of forty-three, Mr. Stetson's great grandfather Hezekiah, with his wife Elizabeth (Tilson) and family moved from Pembroke, Massachusetts, to Sumner, Maine, cleared a farm and built this house. Hezekiah was the sixth generation from the Cornet via his oldest son, Joseph, and all of these generations had lived within a few miles of the Cornet's old home on North River.

Years afterwards, Ezra H., and his cousin John Hezekiah, two farmer boys from Sumner, returned to Massachusetts and found employment in Weymouth, near Scituate. John Hezekiah has long been Town Treasurer of Weymouth and cashier of the First National Bank, while the maker of the "Stetson Shoe" is known wherever the very highest grade of shoe is worn.

Mr. Stetson's line of descent is as follows:— (1) Cornet Robert Stetson and Hannah — (2) Joseph and Ruth Hyland — (3) Joseph, second and Hannah Oldham — (4) Joseph, third and Abigail Hatch — (5) Abel and Lydia Washburn — (6) Hezekiah, first and Elizabeth Tilson — (7) Heseekiah, second and Rebecca Gowel — (8) Josiah Tilson and Cynthia Cobb — (9) Ezra H.



House built by the Cornet's descendants about 1770.

The site of the Cornet's original house is shown in the foreground.

Forty-two years ago the huge chimney was taken down and the space utilized as a sleeping room.

LIST OF MEMBERS

Stetson Kindred of America

Anderson, Amos W. S., Granite Business.....	Portland, Me.
Allen, Sarah, Wife of Lieut. Geo. H. (For 50 years clerk of Ancient and Hon. Artillery Co. Boston)	Hanover, Mass.
Annegers, Elmira.....	Carmen, Ill.
Barry, Esther Stetson, clerk (D. of J. Stetson Barry, Historian)	Newton, Mass.
*Bates, Mrs. Fanny S. W.....	Hanover, Mass.
Bates, Sarah S. C.....	S. Hanover, Mass.
*Bates, Marcia P.....	Bridgewater, Mass.
*Browne, Stella J., Wife of W. G. Brown, M.D.....	Plymouth, Mass.
Baker, Caroline L., merchant	Plattsburg, N. Y.
Briggs, Major Frank H., merchant, Major Mass. Vol. Militia, Retired, 7 years Mem. Com. Council city B	Boston, Mass.
Bates, Alma P.....	South Hanover, Mass.
Belchor, Henry Alden, retired	Randolph, Mass.
*Bickford, Mrs. Scott F.....	Brookline, Mass.
Barry, Chas. H.....	Chicago, Ill.
Bassett, Walter Gordon.....	Goffstown, N. Y.
Burr, Mrs. E. B.....	San Francisco, Cal.
Brown, Mrs. Hattie Stetson, housewife.....	Waterville, N. Y.
Bryant, Mrs. M. B.....	Manchester, N. H.
Cushman, Helen, bookkeeper.....	Brockton, Mass.
Cushman, Edwin Burke, bank cashier.....	San Francisco, Cal.
*Cushman, Miss Alice.....	Brockton, Mass.
Cheney, Mrs. Augusta Briggs.....	Kingston, Mass.
Cluett, Mary Stetson, Mr. C. of firm Cluett, Peabody & Co. Wyndwood Saranac Lake, N. Y.	Wyndwood Saranac Lake, N. Y.
Cluett, George B., 2d.....	Wyndwood, Saranac Lake, N. Y.
Clapp, Fred B., professional nurse.....	Somerville, Mass.
Clapp, Mrs. Susan R.....	Somerville, Mass.
Crane, Mrs. George E.....	Chicago, Ill.
Corbin, Wallace R., shipper.....	Hanover, Mass.
Corthell, Mary J.....	Norwell, Mass.
Clantice, Mrs. Helen A.....	New York, N. Y.
Colby, Mrs. L. W.....	Manchester, N. H.
Clapp, Clift Rogers, lawyer.....	Boston, Mass.
Damon, Daniel E., lawyer, many years Register of Probate, Plymouth County Hanover, Mass.	Hanover, Mass.
Dyer, Mrs. Ellen B.....	Norwell, Mass.
Dyer, Theodore M., tacker.....	Norwell Mass.
Dyer, Arthur H.....	Norwell, Mass.
Donnell, Reuben C., farmer.....	Hanover, Mass.
*Dwellely, Hon. Jedediah, State Senator, County Commissioner twenty-seven years Hanover, Mass.	Hanover, Mass.
Dunham, Mrs. Rosabel T.....	West Bridgewater, Mass.
Damon, Bernard, town clerk thirty-eight years.....	Hanover, Mass.
Dodge, Mary Lucy Stetson.....	New Dorchester, Mass.
Deane, Mrs. Mabell Stetson, Ph.B.....	Rochester, N. Y.
Edson, Evelyn Hall.....	Brockton, Mass.
Fogg, Horace T., attorney, treasurer of Plymouth County.....	Norwell, Mass.
Ford, Harriett J., drawing teacher.....	Duxbury, Mass.
*Gorham, Robert Stetson, lawyer.....	Boston, Mass.
Gray, Joshua Stetson, town treasurer.....	Rockland, Mass.
Gorham, Mrs. Sarah Catherine.....	San Francisco, Cal.
Gotwals, Mrs. Sarah P.....	Philadelphia, Pa.
Garvin, Mrs. May D. Garvin, wife of Samuel Garvin, D.D. .	Colorado Springs, Col.

Haggett, Caroline M.	Natick, Mass.
Hatch, Israel H., selectman	Marshfield, Mass.
Hatch, Cushing	Norwell, Mass.
Halcomb, Rev. Willis B. (former Rector Christs' Church, Plymouth, Mass.)	Manorville, Long Island, N. Y.
Howland, Amelia C.	Hanover, Mass.
Howard, Mrs. Clara Stetson	Brattleboro, Vt.
Henderson, Lucy Brown	New Castle, Pa.
Holland, Mrs. Kate G. Stetson, housekeeper	Barre, Mass.
Jones, Marian Stetson	Brattleboro, Vt.
Jaques, Bertha E., artist, pres. Chicago Society of Etchers	Chicago, Ill.
Knapp, Mrs. Hannah A., housekeeper	Norwell, Mass.
Kephart, Mrs. Laura Stetson, pastor's wife	Pacific Grove, Cal.
Lippincott, Walter, publisher	Philadelphia, Pa.
Leach, Anna A. M., principal Emma Willard School	Troy, N. Y.
Leach, Edith (A.B. Smith College), Vassar College	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Leach, Abby, A.M., professor Greek, Vassar College	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Le Porte, Eliza R.	Hackensack, N. J.
Liffler, Rebecca C. B.	Cambridge, Mass.
Littlefield, Emma F. Stetson	Avon, Mass.
McIntire, Marian N. Y.	Denver, Col.
Miller, Dora W. (Mr. M. engineer U. S. Navy from 1861-1872)	Williamsport, Pa.
Morrow, Mrs. George C.	Brockton, Mass.
Marden, Georgie D.	Jefferson, Me.
McDonald, Abbie M. Stetson	S. Hanover, Mass.
Morton, Hon. Levi P., Ex-Vice President U. S.	Fifth Ave., N. Y., N. Y.
Neale, Mrs. George F.	New York, N. Y.
Neale, Alice Kent	New York, N. Y.
Neale, Lawrence I., building constructor	New York, N. Y.
Newcomb, Mrs. Louisa Stetson	New York, N. Y.
Norton, Mrs. Charles Oliver, capitalist, State Regent D. A. R.	Kearney, Neb.
Plympton, Miss Frances A., clerk	Boston, Mass.
Pierce, Laura G.	Braintree, Mass.
Pratt, Elsie A.	Rockland, Mass.
Pierson, William M., retired dry goods merchant	Alton, Ill.
Pierce, Emma P., housewife	East Milton, Mass.
Phelps, Amos A., Insurance and Real Estate	Rockland, Mass.
Phillips, Ella Stetson, wife of Watson Phillips, D.D.	New Haven, Conn.
Phipps, Mrs. Walter B.	Allston, Mass.
Parker Lawrence H., school teacher	Amherst, Mass.
Phipps, Maurice Bowman, journalist	Boston, Mass.
*Pevear, Henry A., capitalist, morocco mfr.	Lynn, Mass.
Palmer, Mrs. Fred L., farmers wife	East Sumner, Me.
Reed, Captain Lewis, captain U. S. A., retired	Rockland, Mass.
Randall, Herbert, Art Publisher, Governor Society May Flower Descendants	Hartford, Conn.
*Reed, Quincy, retired manufacturer	Whitman, Mass.
Roby, Mrs. Charlotte E. S.	Norwood, Mass.
Rea, Mrs. Phoebe T.	Dorchester, Mass.
Richardson, Edwin P.	Manchester, N. H.
Reed, Mrs. Maria W.	Whitman, Mass.
Robbins, Rev. Howard C., Rector of Church of the Incarnation	New York, N. Y.
*Stetson, John B., manufacturer and philanthropist	Philadelphia, Pa.
*Stetson, James Burgess, R. R. President	San Francisco, Cal.
Stetson, John B., Jr., manufacturer	Philadelphia, Pa.
*Stetson, William Wallace, LL.D., State Superintendent Schools	Auburn, Me.
Stetson, E. Eugene, Selectman	Norwell, Mass.

Stetson, Chalres W.....Lansdale, Pa.
 Stetson, Isaiah K., Colonel, banker and timberlands.....Bangor, Me.
 Formerly State Senator, Speaker of House, member of Gov. Staff, etc.
 Stetson, Benjamin Leigh, superintendent of corporation.....Rochester, N. Y.
 Stetson, William H. (prof. stenographic reporter, Official Stenographer to Peace
 Congress).....New York, N. Y.
 Stetson, Louisa M., "Farmers".....Franklin, N. H.
 *Stetson, Joel D.....Fairhaven, Mass.
 *Stetson, Frank L., bookkeeper.....Medford, Mass.
 Stetson, William F., telephone appliances, retired age eighty-eight, ..Clinton, Mass.
 Stetson, Mrs. Susan.....Randolph, Mass.
 Stetson, Thomas, general timekeeper.....Rochester, N. Y.
 Stetson, William Mitchell, printer and manufacturing stationer.....Albany N. Y.
 *Stetson, David Sprague, ship broker.....Philadelphia, Pa.
 Stetson, Benjamin Franklin, proprietor Deershead Inn.....Elizabethtown, N. Y.
 Stetson, George C.....Hanover, Mass.
 Stetson, Rector Damon, slipper manufacturer.....Hanover, Mass.
 Stetson, Charles W., manager.....Boston, Mass.
 *Stetson, George F., builder.....Norwood, Mass.
 Stetson, Almon B. (B.S.), supt. elec. lamp Mfg, Gen'l Elec. Co.Fort Wayne, Ind.
 *Stetson, John G., LL.D, clerk of U. S. Circuit CourtBoston, Mass.
 Stetson, Sarah A.....Nashua, N. H.
 Stetson, Lincoln, cattle dealer.....Randolph, Mass.
 Stetson, Miss Julia C.Abington, Mass.
 Stetson, Clinton J., traveling salesman.....Rochester, N. Y.
 *Stetson, J. Frank, R. R. conductor.....Hanover, Mass.
 Stetson, Frank H., machinist.....Lawrence, Mass.
 Stetson, Winfield Scott, machinist.....Nashua, N. H.
 Stetson, Nahum, Amer. manager Steinway Piano Co.....New York, N. Y.
 Stetson, Daniel A.....Paoli, Pa.
 Stetson, Harold E., clerk.....Hanover, Mass.
 Stetson, John H., cashier First National Bank.....South Weymouth, Mass.
 Stetson, Ezra H., Mfr. "Stetson Shoe".....South Weymouth, Mass.
 Stetson, Clarence, lawyer, Pres. Com. Council.....Utica, N. Y.
 Stetson, Clarence A., physician.....Lynn, Mass.
 Stetson, Captain Prince R., captain U. S. A.....Reading, Pa.
 Stetson, Alfred D., house and ship furnishers.....Bath, Me.
 Stetson, Edward Eckert, broker.....Reading, Pa.
 Stetson, Willis Kimball, librarian Public Library.....New Haven, Conn.
 Stetson, Mary I., nurse.....Middleboro, Mass.
 Stetson, George William, retired farmer.....Barry, Mass.
 Stetson, Albert L. president "Stetson Barret Co.".....Los Angeles, Cal.
 Stetson, Marian, d. of John G. Stetson, LL.DBrookline, Mass.
 Stetson, John B., M.D.....Seattle, Wash.
 Stetson, Robert N.....Glenside, Pa.
 Stetson, Paul Hamilton, chem. broker "Wisner and Stetson".....New York, NY.
 Stetson, Winona May, assistant N. E. Hist. Soc. BostonWinthrop, Mass.
 Stetson, John A., president Stetson Coal Co.....Boston, Mass.
 Stetson, Miss Louise E.....Camden, Me.
 Stetson, Charles Cary, president Fidelity Storage and Transfer Co Saint Paul, Minn.
 Stetson, Herbert Lee, LL.D, president Kalamazoo College.....Kalamazoo, Mich.
 Stetson, Leon F., dealer in Ice, Coal and Wood.....Marshfield, Mass.
 *Stetson, Geo. W., editor.....Medford, Mass.
 *Stetson, Warren B., retired.....Middleboro, Mass.
 Stetson, Thomas Drew, lawyer, editor.....New York, N. Y.
 Stetson, Frederick W., physician.....Roxbury, Mass.
 Stetson, Miss Loretta T., dressmaker.....South Weymouth, Mass

Stetson, Edward, banker Bangor, Maine.
 Stetson, Frederick Dudley, lawyer New Bedford, Mass.
 Stetson, George W., lawyer, referee in bankruptcy Middleboro, Mass.
 Stetson, Francis Lynde, organizer of and general council for U. S. Steel
 Corporation New York, N. Y.
 Stetson, Arthur F., President Union Marine Ins. Co. Bangor, Me.
 Stetson, Harriett Swan Bridgewater, Mass.
 Stetson, Charles F., dry goods dealer, retired, age 92 yrs. 6 mos. . . Duxbury, Mass.
 Stetson, Frank D., Real Estate Whitman, Mass.
 Stetson, Ethel F., compositor Whitman, Mass.
 Stetson, George H., insurance broker (Master Mason and 32nd degree Mason of Scot-
 tish Rite) New York, N. Y.
 Stetson, Arthur W., printer Quincy, Mass.
 Stetson, James H., president wholesale dry Goods Co., "Walker Stetson Co."
 Boston, Mass.
 Stetson, George R., president Gas and Electric Light Co. New Bedford, Mass.
 Stetson, John N. S., banker Boston, Mass.
 *Stetson, William, carpenter, Real Estate Brockton, Mass.
 Stetson, James Swan, student Taber, Alberta, Can.
 *Stetson, Winslow, retired Roxbury, Mass.
 Stetson, Cyrus Herbert, farmer Bridgewater, Mass.
 *Stetson, America E., shoe manufacturer Whitman, Mass.
 Stetson, John E., High School Principal Springfield, Vt.
 Stetson, Nelson M., pharmacist Abington, Mass.
 Stetson, J. F., cashier National Bank Camden, Me.
 Stetson, John Smedley, physician New York, N. Y.
 Stetson, Arthur Dana, Principal Public School Brooklyn, N. Y.
 Stetson, Forest Leslie, printer and publisher Greenfield, Mass.
 Stetson, Frederick T., lawyer Champlain, N. Y.
 Stetson, George R., Tresaurer First National Bank Palmyra, N. Y.
 *Stetson, Robert C., treasurer Stockbridge, Mass.
 Stetson, Ernest C., graduate in pharmacy Brockton, Mass.
 Stetson, W. Graydon, general manager Brockline, Mass.
 Stetson, Ethel I., student Norwell, Mass.
 *Stetson, Hiram W., iron master Burlington, Vt.
 Stetson, Benjamin L. South Hanover, Mass.
 Stetson, Dorothy, student Waban, Mass.
 Stetson, Herbert O., student Waban, Mass.
 Stetson, John Bacon, student Waban, Mass.
 Stetson, Clara Silsby, student Abington, Mass.
 *Stetson, Rev. Joshua A. (M.D.) physician and clergyman Providence, R. I.
 Stetson, Martin V. B., city clerk Gloversville, N. Y.
 Stetson, William Vinton, dry goods merchant Troy, Ohio
 Stetson, Edwin F., M.D. Damariscotta, Me.
 Stetson, Horace, lawyer and banker Orange, N. J.
 Stetson, Josiah W., treasurer Mechanics Savings Bank Auburn, Me.
 Smith, Miss Susey A, genealogist Kingston, Mass.
 *Sampson, Thomas C., farmer Norwell, Mass.
 Sampson, Sarah L. Norwell, Mass.
 Stirrett, Mary C. New Bedford, Mass
 *Spaulding, Charlotte, M. A. C. New Bedford, Mass.
 Stirrett, Chester S., clerk New Bedford, Mass
 Stockbridge, Lucy J., milliner South Hanover, Mass.
 Sparrell, Nellie M., school teacher Everett, Mass.
 Spinney, Mrs. Maria F. Stetson Hanover, Mass.
 *Shaw, Rev. George S. Ashby, Mass.

Studley, Marian H.	Rockland, Mass.
Seaverns, Mrs. Martha J.	Scituate, Mass.
*Sturtevant, Mrs. Mariana.	Plainfield, N. J.
Sturtevant, Charles A.	Plainfield, N. J.
Sameais, Mrs. Mary E.	New York, N. Y.
Smith, Winfield Scott, journalist, was for nine years private secretary to Secretary of the Interior	Washington, D. C.
Turner, Mrs. C. J.	Jamaica Plain, Mass.
*Thayer, Martin.	Onset, Mass.
Turner, George C., farmer.	Norwell, Mass.
*Torrey, Mrs. Ella F.	Rockland, Mass.
Thomas, Abbie W. Stetson.	Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Turner, Miss Grace A., stenographer.	Jamaica Plain, Mass.
Wheeler, Mrs. Adaline B.	Camden, Me.
Wheeler, Miss Ada M.	Camden, Me.
Whiting, Rebecca J. S.	Abington, Mass.
Woodman, Mrs. Jennie Stetson.	Lawrence, Mass.
White, Mrs. Sarah A.	East Weymouth, Mass.
Young, Arthur, Insurance broker.	Winthrop, Mass.

The "Stetson Kindred of America" expects soon to revise Mr. Barry's Records of the Stetson Family and wishes to be in touch with every descendant of Cornet Robert Stetson.

Anyone discovering mistakes in Barry's notes, or having knowledge of branches not mentioned by him, or any Stetson who cannot connect with the Cornet's family, will confer a favor by corresponding with the Secretary.

A grandson of the Cornet who disappeared more than two hundred years ago, and whom Mr. Barry had lost altogether, has recently been discovered with a large posterity in a neighboring state.

Join the "Kindred" and give us your influence.

NELSON M STETSON, Secretary.

Abington, Mass.



FACTORY OF THE JOHN B. STETSON COMPANY, PHILADELPHIA

A Few Facts In Tabloid Regarding the Largest Hat Manufacturing Business In the World.

The business was founded by John B. Stetson in 1865, and incorporated under the name of John B. Stetson Company in 1891 with a capital of \$2,000,000 which has since been increased to \$8,000,000.

At present there are employed in round numbers, 5,400 people, who devote their entire time to the production of Stetson Hats. Of these 4,000 are men and 1,400 women.

During the last year 11,500,000 skins were cut, and 700,000 pounds of fur actually converted into hats.

All of the silk ribbons used for bands and bindings are woven in our factory. We produce upwards of 6,000,000 yards annually, requiring over 40,000 pounds of raw silk.

820 tons of box board were required last year in making paper boxes.

During the year of 1911 we manufactured 3,336,000 hats, an average daily output of 11,000 hats.

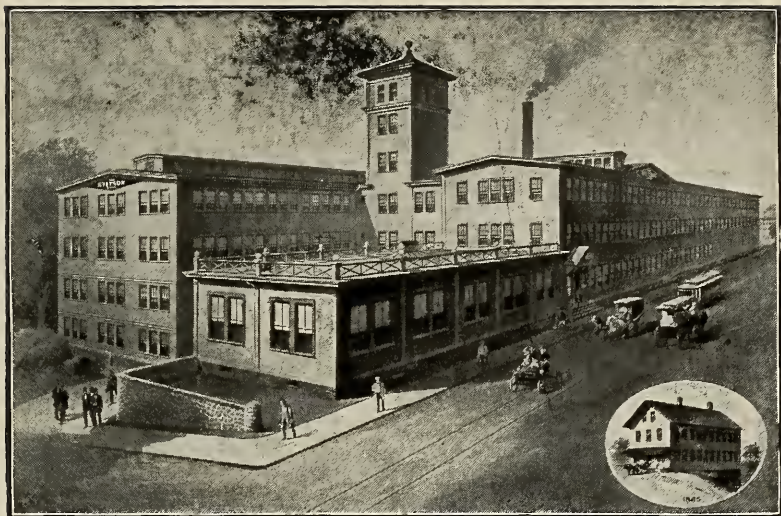
A remarkable feature of the Stetson business is the general and wide distribution of the product, the hats being sold throughout the world in every country in which hats are worn. No other trade-marked article of merchandise of which we know is so widely distributed.

Stetson hats are sold by one hundred and fifty wholesale merchants and more than ten thousand retail merchants. Of the latter, one thousand one hundred and twenty-four are in foreign countries.

The largest foreign markets for Stetson hats are Argentina Republic, Mexico, Canada, South Africa, Australia and Europe.

JOHN B. STETSON COMPANY

FIFTH STREET AND MONTGOMERY AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PA.



THE FACTORY OF THE STETSON SHOE COMPANY
SOUTH WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS
E. H. STETSON, PRES.



MORE BY THE PAIR.

LESS BY THE YEAR.

